## Assembly Bill No. 1358

## **CHAPTER 808**

An act to amend Section 6143.5 of the Business and Professions Code, to amend Section 1785.3 of the Civil Code, to amend Sections 683.130, 683.310, 689.020, 689.030, 689.040, 689.050, 695.211, 695.221, 699.510, 704.114, 704.120, 704.130, 704.160, 706.030, 708.730, 708.740, and 1218 of the Code of Civil Procedure, to amend Sections 150, 290, 3030, 3555, 3751.5, 3752, 3761, 3771, 4006, 4009, 4065, 4200, 4201, 4202, 4203, 4204, 4205, 4250, 4251, 4351, 4352, 4502, 4506.3, 4573, 4701, 4721, 4729, 5000, 5001, 5002, 5100, 5214, 5230, 5231, 5235, 5237, 5241, 5244, 5245, 5246, 5247, 5252, 5260, 5261, 5280, 5600, 5601, 5602, 5603, 7558, 7573, 7574, 7575, 7630, 7634, 10008, 17000, 17212, 17304, 17400, 17401, 17402, 17404, 17406, 17430, 17434, 17504, 17505, 17508, 17518, 17525, 17604, and 17714 of, to amend and renumber Section 17401 of, to add Sections 113, 17531 and 17540 to, to repeal and add Section 291 to, and to repeal Sections 5101, 5102, and 17400.5 of, the Family Code, to amend Sections 6103.9, 7480, 11552, 12419.3, 15703, 26746, 27757, 29410, 29411, 29412, 29413, 29414, 29415, and 29416 of the Government Code, to amend Section 102447 of the Health and Safety Code, to amend Section 10121.6 of the Insurance Code, to amend Section 138.5 of the Labor Code, to amend Sections 830.35, 11105, and 13300 of the Penal Code, to amend Sections 19271.6, 19272, 19274, and 19275 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, to amend Sections 1088.8, 1255.7, and 2630 of the Unemployment Insurance Code, and to amend Sections 903.4, 903.41, 903.5, 10082, 10604.5, 10604.6, 11457, 11477, 11477.02, 14008.6, and 14124.93 of, and to add Section 11484 to, and to repeal Section 11479.7 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to child support enforcement, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

[Approved by Governor September 28, 2000. Filed with Secretary of State September 28, 2000.]

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1358, Shelley. Child support enforcement.

Existing law, as revised in 1999, provides for the implementation and administration of procedures for the enforcement of child support obligations and sets forth the duties and functions of specified state and local entities for this purpose.

Existing law requires each county to maintain a local child support agency for the purpose of establishing, modifying, and enforcing child support obligations. Existing law provides for the transfer of child support collection duties from the district attorney to the local child support agency by January 1, 2003.

Ch. 808 — 2 —

This bill would make conforming changes to provisions governing the entities authorized to enforce the collection of child support by deleting references to the district attorney and instead adding references to the local child support agency. The bill would make technical changes. The bill would also require local child support agencies to delete specified criminal history information from a file when the agency closes a child support enforcement case. By imposing additional duties on local employees, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Existing law requires a court, when ordering a party to pay an amount for support or modifying an order thereof, to include an earnings assignment order for support requiring the employer of the obligor to pay the obligee that portion of the obligor's earning due the obligee.

This bill would provide that an earnings assignment for support would be issued, and would be effective and enforceable, notwithstanding the absence of the name, address, or other identifying information regarding the obligor's employer.

Existing law prohibits the release of information, including the disclosure of the whereabouts of one party or the child to another party, or to the attorney of any other party, if a protective order has been issued by a court or administrative agency, a good cause claim has been approved or is pending, or the public agency responsible for establishing paternity or enforcing support has reason to believe that the release of the information may result in physical or emotional harm to the party or the child.

This bill would require, when a local child support agency is prohibited from releasing information for the reasons stated above, that the information be omitted from any pleading or document to be submitted to the court. The bill would provide for the release of this information only upon an order of the court.

Existing law requires each county to maintain a local child support agency that is responsible for establishing, modifying, and enforcing support obligations.

This bill would authorize attorneys employed within the local child support agency to direct, control, and prosecute civil actions and proceedings in the name of the county in support of child support activities on behalf of the Department of Child Support Services and the local agency.

Under existing law, after a support order, including a temporary support order and an order for medical support only, has been entered in an action, the parent who requested or who is receiving support enforcement services of the local child support agency becomes a party to the action.

This bill would require the local child support agency, once both parents are parties to an action in cases where Title IV-D services are currently being provided, to mail the nonmoving party in the action,

**—3** — Ch. 808

within 5 days of receipt, all pleadings relating solely to the support issue in the action that have been served on the local child support agency by the moving party. The bill would create a rebuttable presumption that service upon the child support agency constitutes valid service on the moving party, and where this procedure is used to effectuate service on the nonmoving party, the pleadings shall be served on the local child support agency 30 days prior to the hearing.

Existing law requires the local child support agency or the Attorney General to provide written notice to recipients of child support enforcement services of the initial date and time, and purpose of every hearing in a civil action for paternity or support.

This bill would require, once the parent who has requested or who is receiving support enforcement services becomes a party to the action, the local child support agency or Attorney General to serve on a parent all pleadings relating to support that have been served on the local child support agency by the other parent and for the pleading to be accompanied by a notice.

The bill would also provide that, commencing July 1, 2000, the Department of Child Support Services shall pay only those county claims for federal or state reimbursement which are filed with the department within 9 months of the end of the calendar quarter in which the costs are paid, except as specified.

This bill would incorporate additional changes in Section 699.510 of the Code of Civil Procedure proposed by AB 2405, to be operative if this bill and AB 2405 are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, and this bill is enacted last.

This bill would incorporate additional changes in Section 3751.5 of the Family Code proposed by AB 2130, to be operative if this bill and AB 2130 are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, and this bill is enacted last.

This bill would incorporate additional changes in Section 11552 of the Government Code proposed by SB 150, to be operative if this bill and SB 150 are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, and this bill is enacted last.

This bill would incorporate additional changes in Section 12419.3 of the Government Code proposed by AB 2906, to be operative if this bill and AB 2906 are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, and this bill is enacted last.

This bill would incorporate additional changes in Section 26746 of the Government Code proposed by AB 1768, to be operative if this bill and AB 1768 are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, and this bill is enacted last.

This bill would incorporate additional changes in Section 11105 of the Penal Code proposed by SB 2161, to be operative if this bill and SB 2161 are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, and this bill is enacted last.

Ch. 808 — **4** —

This bill would incorporate additional changes in Section 13300 of the Penal Code proposed by SB 2161, to be operative if this bill and SB 2161 are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, and this bill is enacted last.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement, including the creation of a State Mandates Claims Fund to pay the costs of mandates that do not exceed \$1,000,000 statewide and other procedures for claims whose statewide costs exceed \$1,000,000.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature recognizes the vital importance to the well-being of California's children of the prompt and effective enforcement of support obligations. Title IV-D of the Social Security Act requires that agencies that carry out Title IV-D support enforcement functions be given access to information available to law enforcement agencies and correction systems. It is the intent of the Legislature that the local child support agencies established by Section 17304 of the Family Code be authorized to receive the same level of state summary criminal history information that heretofore has been available to the district attorney's family support divisions. It is also the intent of the Legislature that the local child support agencies be authorized to request state summary criminal history information from law enforcement agencies and shall be authorized to provide the information obtained through the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System.

- SEC. 2. Section 6143.5 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:
- 6143.5. Any member, active or inactive, failing to pay any child support after it becomes due shall be subject to Section 17520 of the Family Code.
  - SEC. 3. Section 1785.3 of the Civil Code is amended to read:
- 1785.3. The following terms as used in this title have the meaning expressed in this section:
- (a) "Adverse action" means a denial or revocation of credit, a change in the terms of an existing credit arrangement which is adverse to the interests of the consumer, or a refusal to grant credit

**—5** — Ch. 808

in substantially the amount or on substantially the terms requested. "Adverse action" includes all of the following:

- (1) Any denial of, increase in any charge for, or reduction in the amount of, insurance for personal, family, or household purposes made in connection with the underwriting of insurance.
- (2) Any denial of employment or any other decision made for employment purposes which adversely affects any current or prospective employee.
- (3) Any action taken, or determination made, with respect to a consumer (A) for an application for an extension of credit, or an application for the hiring of a dwelling unit, and (B) that is adverse to the interests of the consumer.

"Adverse action" does not include (A) a refusal to extend additional credit to a consumer under an existing credit arrangement if (i) the applicant is delinquent or otherwise in default under that credit arrangement or (ii) the additional credit would exceed a credit limit previously established for the consumer or (B) a refusal or failure to authorize an account transaction at a point of sale.

- (b) "Consumer" means a natural individual.
- (c) "Consumer credit report" means any written, oral, or other communication of any information by a consumer credit reporting agency bearing on a consumer's credit worthiness, credit standing, or credit capacity, which is used or is expected to be used, or collected in whole or in part, for the purpose of serving as a factor in establishing the consumer's eligibility for: (1) credit to be used primarily for personal, family, or household purposes, or (2) employment purposes, or (3) hiring of a dwelling unit, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 1940, or (4) other purposes authorized in Section 1785.11.

The term does not include (1) any report containing information solely as to transactions or experiences between the consumer and the person making the report, (2) any communication of that information or information from a credit application by a consumer that is internal within the organization that is the person making the report or that is made to an entity owned by, or affiliated by corporate control with, that person; provided that the consumer is informed by means of a clear and conspicuous written disclosure that information contained in the credit application may be provided to these persons; however, where a credit application is taken by telephone, disclosure shall initially be given orally at the time the application is taken, and a clear and conspicuous written disclosure shall be made to the consumer in the first written communication to that consumer after the application is taken, (3) any authorization or approval of a specific extension of credit directly or indirectly by the issuer of a credit card or similar device, (4) any report by a person conveying a decision whether to make a specific extension of credit directly or indirectly to a consumer in response to a request by a third party, if Ch. 808 — **6**—

the third party advises the consumer of the name and address of the person to whom the request was made and the person makes the disclosures to the consumer required under Section 1785.20, (5) any report containing information solely on a consumer's character, general reputation, personal characteristics, or mode of living which is obtained through personal interviews with neighbors, friends, or associates of the consumer reported on, or others with whom he is acquainted or who may have knowledge concerning those items of information, (6) any communication about a consumer in connection with a credit transaction which is not initiated by the consumer, between persons who are affiliated (as defined in Section 150 of the Corporations Code) by common ownership or common corporate control (as defined by Section 160 of the Corporations Code), if either of those persons has complied with paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 1785.20.1 with respect to a prequalifying report from which the information communicated is taken and provided the consumer has consented to the provision and use of the prequalifying report in writing, or (7) any consumer credit report furnished for use in connection with a transaction which consists of an extension of credit to be used solely for a commercial purpose.

- (d) "Consumer credit reporting agency" means any person who, for monetary fees, dues, or on a cooperative nonprofit basis, regularly engages in whole or in part in the business of assembling or evaluating consumer credit information or other information on consumers for the purpose of furnishing consumer credit reports to third parties, but does not include any governmental agency whose records are maintained primarily for traffic safety, law enforcement, or licensing purposes.
- (e) "Credit transaction that is not initiated by the consumer" does not include the use of a consumer credit report by an assignee for collection or by a person with which the consumer has an account for purposes of (1) reviewing the account or (2) collecting the account. For purposes of this subdivision, "reviewing the account" includes activities related to account maintenance and monitoring, credit line increases, and account upgrades and enhancements.
- (f) "Employment purposes," when used in connection with a consumer credit report, means a report used for the purpose of evaluating a consumer for employment, promotion, reassignment, or retention as an employee.
- (g) "File," when used in connection with information on any consumer, means all of the information on that consumer recorded and retained by a consumer credit reporting agency, regardless of how the information is stored.
- (h) "Firm offer of credit" means any offer of credit to a consumer that will be honored if, based on information in a consumer credit report on the consumer and other information bearing on the creditworthiness of the consumer, the consumer is determined to

—7— Ch. 808

meet the criteria used to select the consumer for the offer and the consumer is able to provide any real property collateral specified in the offer. For purposes of this subdivision, the phrase "other information bearing on the creditworthiness of the consumer" means information that the person making the offer is permitted to consider pursuant to any rule, regulation, or formal written policy statement relating to the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. Sec. 1681 et seq.), promulgated by the Federal Trade Commission or any federal bank regulatory agency.

- (i) "Item of information" means any of one or more informative entries in a credit report which causes a creditor to deny credit to an applicant or increase the cost of credit to an applicant or deny an applicant a checking account with a bank or other financial institution.
- (j) "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, trust, estate, cooperative, association, government or governmental subdivision or agency, or other entity.
- (k) "Prequalifying report" means a report containing the limited information permitted under paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 1785.11.
- (*l*) "State or local child support enforcement agency" means the Department of Child Support Services or local child support agency acting pursuant to Division 17 (commencing with Section 17000) of the Family Code to establish, enforce or modify child support obligations, and any state or local agency or official that succeeds to these responsibilities under a successor statute.
- SEC. 4. Section 683.130 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 683.130. (a) In the case of a lump-sum money judgment or a judgment for possession or sale of property, the application for renewal of the judgment may be filed at any time before the expiration of the 10-year period of enforceability provided by Section 683.020 or, if the judgment is a renewed judgment, at any time before the expiration of the 10-year period of enforceability of the renewed judgment provided by Section 683.120.
- (b) In the case of a money judgment payable in installments, the application for renewal of the judgment may be filed:
- (1) If the judgment has not previously been renewed, at any time as to past due amounts that at the time of filing are not barred by the expiration of the 10-year period of enforceability provided by Sections 683.020 and 683.030.
- (2) If the judgment has previously been renewed, within the time specified by subdivision (a) as to the amount of the judgment as previously renewed and, as to any past due amounts that became due and payable after the previous renewal, at any time before the expiration of the 10-year period of enforceability provided by Sections 683.020 and 683.030.

Ch. 808 — **8**—

- SEC. 5. Section 683.310 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 683.310. Except as otherwise provided in the Family Code, this chapter does not apply to a judgment or order made or entered pursuant to the Family Code.
- SEC. 6. Section 689.020 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 689.020. (a) Except as otherwise provided by statute, whenever a warrant may properly be issued by a local child support agency pursuant to Section 17522 of the Family Code, and the warrant may be levied with the same effect as a levy pursuant to a writ of execution, the local child support agency may use any of the remedies available to a judgment creditor, including, but not limited to, those provided in Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 708.010) of Division 2.
- (b) The proper court for the enforcement of the remedies provided under this chapter is the superior court in the county where the local child support agency enforcing the support obligation is located.
- SEC. 7. Section 689.030 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 689.030. (a) Whenever the local child support agency, pursuant to Section 17522 of the Family Code, levies upon property pursuant to a warrant or notice of levy for the collection of a support obligation:
- (1) If the debtor is a natural person, the debtor is entitled to the same exemptions to which a judgment debtor is entitled. Except as provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), the claim of exemption shall be made, heard, and determined as provided in Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 703.010) of Division 2 in the same manner as if the property were levied upon under a writ of execution.
- (2) A third person may claim ownership or the right to possession of the property or a security interest in or lien on the property. Except as provided in subdivisions (b) and (c) or as otherwise provided by statute, the third-party claim shall be made, heard, and determined as provided in Division 4 (commencing with Section 720.010) in the same manner as if the property were levied upon under a writ of execution.
- (b) In the case of a warrant or notice of levy issued pursuant to Section 17522 of the Family Code, the claim of exemption or the third-party claim shall be filed with the local child support agency that issued the warrant or notice of levy.
- (c) A claim of exemption or a third-party claim pursuant to this section shall be heard and determined in the court specified in Section 689.010 in the county where the local child support agency enforcing the support obligation is located.
- SEC. 8. Section 689.040 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

**—9** — Ch. 808

689.040. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the case of a writ of execution issued by a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 699.010) and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 706.010) of Division 2, the local child support agency, when enforcing a support obligation pursuant to Division 17 (commencing with Section 17000) of the Family Code, may perform the duties of the levying officer, except that the local child support agency need not give itself the notices that the levying officer is required to serve on a judgment creditor or creditor or the notices that a judgment creditor or creditor is required to give to the levying officer.

- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) of Section 700.140, if the writ of execution is for a deposit or credits or personal property in the possession or under the control of a bank or savings and loan association, the local child support agency may deliver or mail the writ of execution to a centralized location designated by the bank or savings and loan association. If the writ of execution is received at the designated central location, it will apply to all deposits and credits and personal property held by the bank or savings and loan association regardless of the location of that property.
- SEC. 9. Section 689.050 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

689.050. For the purpose of this chapter:

- (a) "Judgment creditor" or "creditor" means the local child support agency seeking to collect a child or spousal support obligation pursuant to a support order.
- (b) "Judgment debtor" or "debtor" means the debtor from whom the support obligation is sought to be collected.
- SEC. 10. Section 695.211 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 695.211. (a) Every money judgment or order for child support shall provide notice that interest on arrearages accrues at the legal rate.
- (b) The notice provisions required by this section shall be incorporated in the appropriate Judicial Council forms.
- (c) Upon implementation of the California Child Support Automation System prescribed in Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 10080) of Part 1 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code and certification of the California Child Support Automation System by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, whenever a statement of account is issued by the local child support agency in any child support action, the statement shall include a statement of an amount of current support, arrears, and interest due.
- SEC. 11. Section 695.221 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

Ch. 808 — **10** —

695.221. Satisfaction of a money judgment for support shall be credited as follows:

- (a) The money shall first be credited against the current month's support.
- (b) Any remaining money is next to be credited against the accrued interest that remains unsatisfied.
- (c) Any remaining money shall be credited against the principal amount of the judgment remaining unsatisfied. If the judgment is payable in installments, the remaining money shall be credited against the matured installments in the order in which they matured.
- (d) In cases enforced pursuant to Part D (commencing with Section 651) of Subchapter 4 of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code, if a lump-sum payment is collected from a support obligor who has money judgments for support owing to more than one family, after the implementation of the California Child Support Automation (CCSA) system, all support collected shall be distributed pursuant to guidelines developed by the State Department of Child Support Services.
- (e) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a), (b), and (c), a collection received as a result of a federal tax refund offset shall first be credited against the interest and then the principal amount of past due support that has been assigned to the state pursuant to Section 11477 of the Welfare and Institutions Code and federal law prior to the interest and then principal amount of any other past due support remaining unsatisfied.
- (f) If federal law does not permit states to adopt the same order of distribution for the pre- and post-assistance child support arrears effective October 1, 1998, the following shall be the order of distribution of child support collections through September 30, 2000, except for federal tax refund offset collections, for child support received for families and children who are former recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program benefits or former recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program benefits:
- (1) The money shall first be credited against the current month's support.
- (2) Any remaining money shall next be credited against interest that accrued on arrearages owed to the family or children since leaving the AFDC program or the TANF program and then such arrearages.
- (3) Any remaining money shall next be credited against interest that accrued on arrearages owed during the time the family or children received benefits under the AFDC program or the TANF program and then such arrearages.
- (4) Any remaining money shall next be credited against interest that accrued on arrearages owed to the family or children prior to

— **11** — Ch. 808

receiving benefits from the AFDC program or the TANF program and then such arrearages.

- (g) If federal law does permit states to adopt the same order of distribution for the pre- and post-assistance child support arrears effective October 1, 1998, or effective October 1, 2000, whichever comes first, the following shall be the order of distribution of child support collections, except for federal tax refund offset collections, for child support received for families and children who are former recipients of AFDC program benefits or former recipients of TANF program benefits:
- (1) The money shall first be credited against the current month's support.
- (2) Any remaining money shall next be credited against interest that accrued on arrearages owed to the family or children since leaving the AFDC program or the TANF program and then such arrearages.
- (3) Any remaining money shall next be credited against interest that accrued on arrearages owed to the family or children prior to receiving benefits from the AFDC program or the TANF program and then such arrearages.
- (4) Any remaining money shall next be credited against interest that accrued on arrearages owed during the time the family or children received benefits under the AFDC program or the TANF program and then such arrearages.
- SEC. 12. Section 699.510 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 699.510. (a) Subject to subdivision (b), after entry of a money judgment, a writ of execution shall be issued by the clerk of the court upon application of the judgment creditor and shall be directed to the levying officer in the county where the levy is to be made and to any registered process server. A separate writ shall be issued for each county where a levy is to be made. Writs may be issued successively until the money judgment is satisfied, except that a new writ may not be issued for a county until the expiration of 180 days after the issuance of a prior writ for that county unless the prior writ is first returned.
- (b) If the judgment creditor seeks a writ of execution to enforce a judgment made, entered, or enforceable pursuant to the Family Code, in addition to the requirements of this article, the judgment creditor shall satisfy the requirements of any applicable provisions of the Family Code.
- SEC. 12.1. Section 699.510 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 699.510. (a) Subject to subdivision (b), after entry of a money judgment, a writ of execution shall be issued by the clerk of the court upon application of the judgment creditor and shall be directed to the levying officer in the county where the levy is to be made and to any

Ch. 808 — **12** —

registered process server. A separate writ shall be issued for each county where a levy is to be made. Writs may be issued successively until the money judgment is satisfied, except that a new writ may not be issued for a county until the expiration of 180 days after the issuance of a prior writ for that county unless the prior writ is first returned.

- (b) If the judgment creditor seeks a writ of execution to enforce a judgment made, entered, or enforceable pursuant to the Family Code, in addition to the requirements of this article, the judgment creditor shall satisfy the requirements of any applicable provisions of the Family Code.
- (c) (1) The writ of execution shall be issued in the name of the judgment debtor as listed on the judgment and may include the additional name or names by which the judgment debtor is known as set forth in the affidavit of identity, as defined in Section 680.135, filed by the judgment creditor with the application for issuance of the writ of execution. Prior to the clerk of court issuing a writ of execution containing any additional name or names by which the judgment debtor is known that are not listed on the judgment, the court shall approve the affidavit of identity. If the court determines, without a hearing or a notice, that the affidavit of identity states sufficient facts upon which the judgment creditor has identified the additional names of the judgment debtor, the court shall authorize the issuance of the writ of execution with the additional name or names.
- (2) In any case where the writ of execution lists any name other than that listed on the judgment, the person in possession or control of the levied property, if other than the judgment debtor, shall not pay to the levying officer the amount or deliver the property being levied upon until being notified to do so by the levying officer. The levying officer may not require the person, if other than the judgment debtor, in possession or control of the levied property to pay the amount or deliver the property levied upon until the expiration of 15 days after service of notice of levy.
- (3) If a person who is not the judgment debtor has property erroneously subject to an enforcement of judgment proceeding based upon an affidavit of identity, the person shall be entitled to the recovery of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs from the judgment creditor incurred in releasing the person's property from a writ of execution, in addition to any other damages or penalties to which an aggrieved person may be entitled to by law, including the provisions of Division 4 (commencing with Section 720.010).
- SEC. 13. Section 704.114 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 704.114. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, service of an earnings assignment order for support, or an order or notice to withhold income for child support on any public entity described in Section 704.110, other than the United States government, creates a

— **13** — Ch. 808

lien on all employee contributions in the amount necessary to satisfy a support judgment as determined under Section 695.210 to the extent that the judgment remains enforceable.

- (b) The public entity shall comply with any request for a return of employee contributions by an employee named in the order or notice to withhold by delivering the contributions to the clerk of the court in which the support order was awarded or last registered, unless the entity has received a certified copy of an order or administrative notice terminating the earnings assignment order for support.
- (c) Upon receipt of moneys pursuant to this section, the clerk of the court, within 10 days, shall send written notice of the receipt of the deposit to the parties and to the local child support agency enforcing any order pursuant to Section 17400 of the Family Code.
- (d) Moneys received pursuant to this section are subject to any procedure available to enforce an order for support, but if no enforcement procedure is commenced after 30 days have elapsed from the date the notice of receipt is sent, the clerk shall, upon request, return the moneys to the public entity that delivered the moneys to the court unless the public entity has informed the court in writing that the moneys shall be released to the employee.
- (e) A court shall not directly or indirectly condition the issuance, modification, or termination of, or condition the terms or conditions of, any order for support upon the making of a request for the return of employee contributions by an employee.
- SEC. 14. Section 704.120 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 704.120. (a) Contributions by workers payable to the Unemployment Compensation Disability Fund and by employers payable to the Unemployment Fund are exempt without making a claim.
- (b) Before payment, amounts held for payment of the following benefits are exempt without making a claim:
- (1) Benefits payable under Division 1 (commencing with Section 100) of the Unemployment Insurance Code.
- (2) Incentives payable under Division 2 (commencing with Section 5000) of the Unemployment Insurance Code.
- (3) Benefits payable under an employer's plan or system to supplement unemployment compensation benefits of the employees generally or for a class or group of employees.
- (4) Unemployment benefits payable by a fraternal organization to its bona fide members.
  - (5) Benefits payable by a union due to a labor dispute.
- (c) After payment, the benefits described in subdivision (b) are exempt.
- (d) During the payment of benefits described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) to a judgment debtor under a support judgment, the

Ch. 808 — **14** —

judgment creditor may, through the appropriate local child support agency, seek to apply the benefit payment to satisfy the judgment as provided by Section 17518 of the Family Code.

(e) During the payment of benefits described in paragraphs (2) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (b) to a judgment debtor under a support judgment, the judgment creditor may, directly or through the appropriate local child support agency, seek to apply the benefit payments to satisfy the judgment by an earnings assignment order for support as defined in Section 706.011 or any other applicable enforcement procedure. If the benefit is payable periodically, the amount to be withheld pursuant to the assignment order or other procedure shall be 25 percent of the amount of each periodic payment or any lower amount specified in writing by the judgment creditor or court order, rounded down to the nearest whole dollar. Otherwise the amount to be withheld shall be the amount the court determines under subdivision (c) of Section 703.070. The paying entity may deduct from each payment made pursuant to an assignment order under this subdivision an amount reflecting the actual cost of administration caused by the assignment order up to two dollars (\$2) for each payment.

SEC. 15. Section 704.130 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

704.130. (a) Before payment, benefits from a disability or health insurance policy or program are exempt without making a claim. After payment, the benefits are exempt.

- (b) Subdivision (a) does not apply to benefits that are paid or payable to cover the cost of health care if the judgment creditor is a provider of health care whose claim is the basis on which the benefits are paid or payable.
- (c) During the payment of disability benefits described in subdivision (a) to a judgment debtor under a support judgment, the judgment creditor or local child support agency may seek to apply the benefit payments to satisfy the judgment by an earnings assignment order for support, as defined in Section 706.011, or any other applicable enforcement procedure, but the amount to be withheld pursuant to the earnings assignment order or other procedure shall not exceed the amount permitted to be withheld on an earnings assignment order for support under Section 706.052.

SEC. 16. Section 704.160 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

704.160. (a) Except as provided by Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 4900) of Part 3 of Division 4 of the Labor Code, before payment, a claim for workers' compensation or workers' compensation awarded or adjudged is exempt without making a claim. Except as specified in subdivision (b), after payment, the award is exempt.

**— 15** — Ch. 808

- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during the payment of workers' compensation temporary disability benefits described in subdivision (a) to a support judgment debtor, the support judgment creditor may, through the appropriate local child support agency, seek to apply the workers' compensation temporary disability benefit payment to satisfy the support judgment as provided by Section 17404 of the Family Code.
- (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during the payment of workers' compensation temporary disability benefits described in subdivision (a) to a support judgment debtor under a support judgment, including a judgment for reimbursement of public assistance, the judgment creditor may, directly or through the appropriate local child support agency, seek to apply the temporary disability benefit payments to satisfy the support judgment by an earnings assignment order for support, as defined in Section 5208 of the Family Code, or any other applicable enforcement procedure. The amount to be withheld pursuant to the earnings assignment order for support or other enforcement procedure shall be 25 percent of the amount of each periodic payment or any lower amount specified in writing by the judgment creditor or court order, rounded down to the nearest dollar. Otherwise, the amount to be withheld shall be the amount the court determines under subdivision (c) of Section 703.070. The paying entity may deduct from each payment made pursuant to an order assigning earnings under this subdivision an amount reflecting the actual cost of administration of this assignment, up to two dollars (\$2) for each payment.
- (d) Unless the provision or context otherwise requires, the following definitions govern the construction of this section.
- (1) "Judgment debtor" or "support judgment debtor" means a person who is owing a duty of support.
- (2) "Judgment creditor" or "support judgment creditor" means the person to whom support has been ordered to be paid.
- (3) "Support" refers to an obligation owing on behalf of a child, spouse, or family; or an amount owing pursuant to Section 17402 of the Family Code. It also includes past due support or arrearage when it exists.
- SEC. 17. Section 706.030 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 706.030. (a) A "withholding order for support" is an earnings withholding order issued on a writ of execution to collect delinquent amounts payable under a judgment for the support of a child, or spouse or former spouse, of the judgment debtor. A withholding order for support shall be denoted as such on its face.
- (b) The local child support agency may issue a withholding order for support on a notice of levy pursuant to Section 17522 of the Family Code to collect a support obligation.

Ch. 808 — **16** —

- (1) When the local child support agency issues a withholding order for support, a reference in this chapter to a levying officer is deemed to mean the local child support agency who issues the withholding order for support.
- (2) Service of a withholding order for support issued by the local child support agency may be made by first-class mail or in any other manner described in Section 706.101. Service of a withholding order for support issued by the local child support agency is complete when it is received by the employer or a person described in paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 706.101, or if service is by first-class mail, service is complete as specified in Section 1013.
- (3) The local child support agency shall serve upon the employer the withholding order for support, a copy of the order, and a notice informing the support obligor of the effect of the order and of his or her right to hearings and remedies provided in this chapter and in the Family Code. The notice shall be accompanied by the forms necessary to obtain an administrative review and a judicial hearing and instructions on how to file the forms. Within 10 days from the date of service, the employer shall deliver to the support obligor a copy of the withholding order for support, the forms to obtain an administrative review and judicial hearing, and the notice. If the support obligor is no longer employed by the employer and the employer does not owe the support obligor any earnings, the employer shall inform the local child support agency that the support obligor is no longer employed by the employer.
- (4) An employer who fails to comply with paragraph (3) shall be subject to a civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500) for each occurrence.
- (5) The local child support agency shall provide for an administrative review to reconsider or modify the amount to be withheld for arrearages pursuant to the withholding order for support, if the support obligor requests a review at any time after service of the withholding order. The review shall be completed within 15 working days after the request is received by the local child support agency. The local child support agency shall notify the employer if the review results in any modifications to the withholding order for support. If the local child support agency cannot complete the administrative review within 15 working days, the local child support agency shall notify the employer to suspend withholding any disputed amount pending the completion of the review and the determination by the local child support agency.
- (6) Nothing in this section prohibits the support obligor from seeking a judicial determination of arrearages pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 17256 of the Family Code or from filing a motion for equitable division of earnings pursuant to Section 706.052 either prior to or after the administrative review provided by this section. Within five business days after receiving notice of the obligor

— **17** — Ch. 808

having filed for judicial relief pursuant to this section, the local child support agency shall notify the employer to suspend withholding any disputed amount pending a determination by the court. The employer shall then adjust the withholding within not more than nine days of receiving the notice from the local child support agency.

- (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter:
- (1) An employer shall continue to withhold pursuant to a withholding order for support until the earliest of the dates specified in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 706.022, except that a withholding order for support shall automatically terminate one year after the employment of the employee by the employer terminates.
- (2) A withholding order for support has priority over any other earnings withholding order. An employer upon whom a withholding order for support is served shall withhold and pay over earnings of the employee pursuant to that order notwithstanding the requirements of another earnings withholding order.
- (3) Subject to paragraph (2) and to Article 3 (commencing with Section 706.050), an employer shall withhold earnings pursuant to both a withholding order for support and another earnings withholding order simultaneously.
- (4) An employer who willfully fails to withhold and forward support pursuant to a valid earnings withholding order for support issued and served upon the employer pursuant to this chapter is liable to the support obligee, as defined in Section 5214 of the Family Code, for the amount of support not withheld, forwarded, or otherwise paid to the support obligee.
- (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an employer shall send all earnings withheld pursuant to a withholding order for support to the levying officer or the Child Support Centralized Collection and Distribution Unit as described in Section 17309 of the Family Code within the time period specified by federal law.
- (6) Once the Child Support Centralized Collection and Distribution Unit as described in Section 17309 of the Family Code is operational, all support payments made pursuant to an earnings withholding order shall be made to that unit.
- (7) Earnings withheld pursuant to an earnings withholding order for support shall be credited toward satisfaction of a support judgment as specified in Section 695.221.
- SEC. 18. Section 708.730 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 708.730. (a) If money is owing and unpaid to the judgment debtor by a public entity, the judgment creditor may file, in the manner provided in this article, an abstract of the money judgment or a certified copy of the money judgment, together with an affidavit that states that the judgment creditor desires the relief provided by this article and states the exact amount then required to satisfy the

Ch. 808 — **18** —

judgment. The judgment creditor may state in the affidavit any fact tending to establish the identity of the judgment debtor.

- (b) Promptly after filing the abstract or certified copy of the judgment and the affidavit with the public entity, the judgment creditor shall serve notice of the filing on the judgment debtor. Service shall be made personally or by mail.
- (c) If the judgment is for support and related costs and money is owing and unpaid to the judgment debtor by a state agency, including, but not limited to, money owing and unpaid to the judgment debtor by a state agency on a claim for refund from the Franchise Tax Board under the Personal Income Tax Law, Part 10 (commencing with Section 17001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, or the Bank and Corporation Tax Law, Part 11 (commencing with Section 23001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code or as a result of the judgment debtor's winnings in the California State Lottery, and the local child support agency is enforcing the support obligation pursuant to Section 17400 of the Family Code, the claim may be submitted as follows: The local child support agency may file the affidavit referred to in subdivision (a) without filing an abstract or certified copy of the judgment. In lieu thereof, the affidavit shall also state that an abstract of the judgment could be obtained. Where there is more than one judgment debtor, the local child support agency may include all the judgment debtors in a single affidavit. Separate affidavits need not be submitted for each judgment debtor. The affidavit need not on its face separately identify each judgment debtor or the exact amount required to satisfy the judgment, so long as it incorporates by reference forms or other automated data transmittals, as required by the Department of Child Support Services, which contain this information. Affidavits submitted pursuant to this subdivision by the local child support agency shall meet the standards and procedures prescribed by the state agency to which the affidavit is submitted, except that those affidavits submitted with respect to moneys owed and unpaid to the judgment debtor as a result of a claim for refund from the Franchise Tax Board under the Personal Income Tax Law, Part 10 (commencing with Section 17001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, or the Bank and Corporation Tax Law, Part 11 (commencing with Section 23001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, shall meet the standards and procedures prescribed by the Franchise Tax Board.

In serving the notice required by subdivision (b), the Director of the Department of Child Support Services or his or her designee may act in lieu of the judgment creditor as to judgments enforced under this division.

(d) If the judgment is for child, spousal, or family support and related costs and money is owing and unpaid to the judgment debtor by a state agency on a claim for refund from the Franchise Tax Board

**— 19 —** Ch. 808

under the Personal Income Tax Law, Part 10 (commencing with Section 17001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, or the Bank and Corporation Tax Law, Part 11 (commencing with Section 23001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, or as a result of the judgment debtor's winnings in the California State Lottery, the judgment creditor may file with the court an abstract or a certified copy of the judgment ordering the payment of child, spousal, or family support, together with a request that the court issue a Notice of Support Arrearage, as provided in Section 708.780, to which any personal income tax refunds and lottery winnings owed the judgment debtor by the State of California will be subject. The request shall be accompanied by an affidavit, signed under penalty of perjury, which shall state that the judgment creditor desires the relief provided by this subdivision and shall state the exact amount then required to satisfy the judgment. In addition, the affidavit shall specify the beginning and ending dates of all periods during which the arrearage for support occurred, specify the arrearage for each month, and state that the support is at least 90 days overdue or is overdue in an amount equal to 90 days of support. It shall also certify that the child or children are not recipients, and during the period for which payment is requested, were not recipients, of Aid to Families with Dependent Children and there was no assignment to a state or county agency of support and shall certify on information and belief that there is not current or past action by a district attorney pending for support or support enforcement on the judgment creditor's behalf.

The request shall have attached a proof of service showing that copies of the request, the affidavit, and the abstract or certified copy of the judgment ordering the payment of support have been served on the judgment debtor and the district attorney of the county in which the support judgment is entered. Service shall be by certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to the last known address of the party to be served, or by personal service.

This subdivision does not apply in any instance in which a district attorney initiated or participated as counsel in the action for support or if support is required to be paid through a district attorney's office.

The Department of Child Support Services shall, upon request, inform the Legislature of the use and effect of this subdivision on or before December 31, 2000.

This subdivision shall become operative on January 1, 1996, and shall become inoperative on December 31, 2000.

(e) For purposes of this section, "support" means an obligation owing on behalf of a child, spouse, or family, or combination thereof.

SEC. 19. Section 708.740 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

708.740. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (e), if money is owing and unpaid to the judgment debtor by a state agency, the

Ch. 808 — **20** —

judgment creditor shall file the abstract or certified copy of the judgment and the affidavit with the state agency owing the money to the judgment debtor prior to the time the state agency presents the claim of the judgment debtor to the Controller. Where the affidavit is prepared under subdivision (c) of Section 708.730, the affidavit shall be filed with the Department of Child Support Services, and no abstract need be filed. Filing of the affidavit with the department shall be sufficient to require the Controller to transfer the funds claimed by the judgment debtor, notwithstanding that the claim of the judgment debtor has been filed with another state agency.

- (b) When presenting the claim of the judgment debtor to the Controller, the state agency shall do all of the following:
- (1) Note the fact of the filing of the abstract or certified copy of the judgment and the affidavit.
- (2) State the amount required to satisfy the judgment as shown by the affidavit.
- (3) State any amounts advanced to the judgment debtor by the state, or owed by the judgment debtor to the state, for expenses or for any other purpose.
- (c) Except as provided in subdivisions (d) and (e), to discharge the claim of the judgment debtor, the Controller shall (1) deposit with the court, by a warrant or check payable to the court, the amount due the judgment debtor (after deducting an amount sufficient to reimburse the state for any amounts advanced to the judgment debtor or owed by the judgment debtor to the state) required to satisfy the money judgment as shown by the affidavit in full or to the greatest extent and (2) pay the balance thereof, if any, to the judgment debtor.
- (d) Where an affidavit stating the existence of a judgment for support has been submitted to the Department of Child Support Services, pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 708.730, to discharge the claim of a judgment debtor, the Controller shall direct payment to the county agency designated by the local child support agency in his or her affidavit.
- (e) Where the judgment is for support and the money owed is for lottery winnings or a refund of overpayment of tax, penalty, interest, or interest allowable with respect to an overpayment under Part 10 (commencing with Section 17001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, and the support obligation is not being enforced pursuant to Section 17400 of the Family Code, the judgment creditor may file the abstract or certified copy of the judgment with the local child support agency of the county in which the support judgment is entered or registered. The local child support agency shall then file the claim of the judgment creditor pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 708.730. When funds are received by the local child support agency, it shall discharge any claim of the judgment debtor by

**— 21** — Ch. 808

forwarding those sums to the clerk of the court pursuant to subdivision (c) of this section. Any and all notices otherwise required of a judgment creditor or the clerk of the court, and any litigation to enforce rights under this subdivision shall be the responsibility of the judgment creditor, the same as if service had been directly on the Controller without the intervention of the local child support agency.

- (f) Where the claim of the judgment debtor is less than ten dollars (\$10) and the claim of the judgment creditor arises under an affidavit filed pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 708.730, the Controller may disregard the claim of the judgment creditor and forward any and all sums due to the judgment debtor. In the event that there is more than one claimant for a refund, the Franchise Tax Board shall have discretion in allocating the overpayment among claimants.
- (g) Should two or more local child support agencies submit claims on behalf of a judgment creditor, the Controller in his or her discretion may select which claim or claims he or she shall honor.
- (h) Any claims which are honored in behalf of a judgment creditor shall be considered as refunds of tax overpayments to the judgment debtor
- (i) For purposes of this section, "support" means an obligation owing on behalf of a child, spouse, or family, or combination thereof.
- SEC. 20. Section 1218 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 1218. (a) Upon the answer and evidence taken, the court or judge shall determine whether the person proceeded against is guilty of the contempt charged, and if it be adjudged that he or she is guilty of the contempt, a fine may be imposed on him or her not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or he or she may be imprisoned not exceeding five days, or both. In addition, a person who is subject to a court order as a party to the action, or any agent of this person, who is adjudged guilty of contempt for violating that court order may be ordered to pay to the party initiating the contempt proceeding the reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred by this party in connection with the contempt proceeding.
- (b) No party, who is in contempt of a court order or judgment in a dissolution of marriage or legal separation action, shall be permitted to enforce such an order or judgment, by way of execution or otherwise, either in the same action or by way of a separate action, against the other party. This restriction shall not affect nor apply to the enforcement of child or spousal support orders.
- (c) In any court action in which a party is found in contempt of court for failure to comply with a court order pursuant to the Family Code, the court shall order the following:
- (1) Upon a first finding of contempt, the court shall order the contemner to perform community service of up to 120 hours, or to be imprisoned up to 120 hours, for each count of contempt.

Ch. 808 — **22** —

- (2) Upon the second finding of contempt, the court shall order the contemner to perform community service of up to 120 hours, in addition to ordering imprisonment of the contemner up to 120 hours, for each count of contempt.
- (3) Upon the third or any subsequent finding of contempt, the court shall order both of the following:
- (A) The court shall order the contemner to serve a term of imprisonment of up to 240 hours, and to perform community service of up to 240 hours, for each count of contempt.
- (B) The court shall order the contemner to pay an administrative fee, not to exceed the actual cost of the contemner's administration and supervision, while assigned to a community service program pursuant to this paragraph.
- (4) The court shall take parties' employment schedules into consideration when ordering either community service or imprisonment, or both.
  - SEC. 21. Section 113 is added to the Family Code, to read:
- 113. "Property" includes real and personal property and any interest therein.
  - SEC. 22. Section 150 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 150. "Support" refers to a support obligation owing on behalf of a child, spouse, or family, or an amount owing pursuant to Section 17402. It also includes past due support or arrearage when it exists. "Support," when used with reference to a minor child or a child described in Section 3901, includes maintenance and education.
  - SEC. 23. Section 290 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 290. Subject to Section 291, a judgment or order made or entered pursuant to this code may be enforced by the court by execution, the appointment of a receiver, or contempt, or by any other order as the court in its discretion determines from time to time to be necessary.
  - SEC. 24. Section 291 of the Family Code is repealed.
  - SEC. 25. Section 291 is added to the Family Code, to read:
- 291. A judgment or order for possession or sale of property made or entered pursuant to this code is subject to the period of enforceability and the procedure for renewal provided by Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 683.010) of Division 1 of Title 9 of Part 2 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
  - SEC. 26. Section 3030 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 3030. (a) No person shall be granted physical or legal custody of, or unsupervised visitation with, a child if the person is required to be registered as a sex offender under Section 290 of the Penal Code where the victim was a minor, or if the person has been convicted under Section 273a, 273d, or 647.6 of the Penal Code, unless the court finds that there is no significant risk to the child and states its reasons in writing or on the record.

**— 23** — Ch. 808

- (b) No person shall be granted custody of, or visitation with, a child if the person has been convicted under Section 261 of the Penal Code and the child was conceived as a result of that violation.
- (c) No person shall be granted custody of, or unsupervised visitation with, a child if the person has been convicted of murder in the first degree, as defined in Section 189 of the Penal Code, and the victim of the murder was the other parent of the child who is the subject of the order, unless the court finds that there is no risk to the child's health, safety, and welfare, and states the reasons for its finding in writing or on the record. In making its finding, the court may consider, among other things, the following:
- (1) The wishes of the child, if the child is of sufficient age and capacity to reason so as to form an intelligent preference.
- (2) Credible evidence that the convicted parent was a victim of abuse, as defined in Section 6203, committed by the deceased parent. That evidence may include, but is not limited to, written reports by law enforcement agencies, child protective services or other social welfare agencies, courts, medical facilities, or other public agencies or private nonprofit organizations providing services to victims of domestic abuse.
- (3) Testimony of an expert witness, qualified under Section 1107 of the Evidence Code, that the convicted parent suffers from the effects of battered women's syndrome.

Unless and until a custody or visitation order is issued pursuant to this subdivision, no person shall permit or cause the child to visit or remain in the custody of the convicted parent without the consent of the child's custodian or legal guardian.

- (d) The court may order child support that is to be paid by a person subject to subdivision (a), (b), or (c) to be paid through the local child support agency, as authorized by Section 4573 of the Family Code and Division 17 (commencing with Section 17000) of this code.
- (e) The court shall not disclose, or cause to be disclosed, the custodial parent's place of residence, place of employment, or the child's school, unless the court finds that the disclosure would be in the best interest of the child.
  - SEC. 27. Section 3555 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 3555. Where support is ordered to be paid through the county officer designated by the court on behalf of a child or other party not receiving public assistance pursuant to the Family Economic Security Act of 1982 (Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11200) of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code), the designated county officer shall forward the support received to the designated payee within the time standards prescribed by federal law and the Department of Child Support Services.
  - SEC. 28. Section 3751.5 of the Family Code is amended to read:

Ch. 808 — **24** —

- 3751.5. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an employer or insurer shall not deny enrollment of a child under the health insurance coverage of a child's parent on any of the following grounds:
  - (1) The child was born out of wedlock.
- (2) The child is not claimed as a dependent on the parent's federal income tax return.
- (3) The child does not reside with the parent or in the insurer's service area.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in any case in which a parent is required by a court or administrative order to provide health insurance coverage for a child and the parent is eligible for family health coverage through an employer or an insurer, the employer or insurer shall do all of the following, as applicable:
- (1) Permit the parent to enroll under health insurance coverage any child who is otherwise eligible to enroll for that coverage, without regard to any enrollment period restrictions.
- (2) If the parent is enrolled in health insurance coverage but fails to apply to obtain coverage of the child, enroll that child under the health coverage upon presentation of the court order or request by the local child support agency, the other parent or person having custody of the child, or the Medi-Cal program.
- (3) The employer or insurer shall not disenroll or eliminate coverage of a child unless either of the following applies:
- (A) The employer has eliminated family health insurance coverage for all of the employer's employees.
- (B) The employer or insurer is provided with satisfactory written evidence that either of the following apply:
- (i) The court order or administrative order is no longer in effect or is terminated pursuant to Section 3770.
- (ii) The child is or will be enrolled in comparable health insurance coverage through another insurer that will take effect not later than the effective date of the child's disenrollment.
- (c) In any case in which health insurance coverage is provided for a child pursuant to a court or administrative order, the insurer shall do all of the following:
- (1) Provide any information that may be necessary for the child to obtain benefits through the coverage to both parents or the person having custody of the child and to the local child support agency when requested by the local child support agency.
- (2) Permit the noncovered parent or person having custody of the child, or a provider with the approval of the noncovered parent or person having custody, to submit claims for covered services without the approval of the covered parent.
- (3) Make payment on claims submitted in accordance with subparagraph (2) directly to the noncovered parent or person

**— 25** — Ch. 808

having custody, the provider, or to the Medi-Cal program. Payment on claims for services to the child shall be made to the covered parent for claims submitted or paid by the covered parent.

- (d) For purposes of this section, "insurer" includes every health care service plan, self-insured welfare benefit plan, including those regulated pursuant to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 1001, et seq.), self-funded employer plan, disability insurer, nonprofit hospital service plan, labor union trust fund, employer, and any other similar plan, insurer, or entity offering a health coverage plan.
- (e) For purposes of this section, "person having custody of the child" is defined as a legal guardian, a caregiver who is authorized to enroll the child in school or to authorize medical care for the child pursuant to Section 6550, or a person with whom the child resides.
- (f) For purposes of this section, "employer" has the meaning provided in Section 5210.
  - SEC. 29. Section 3751.5 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 3751.5. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an employer or insurer shall not deny enrollment of a child under the health insurance coverage of a child's parent on any of the following grounds:
  - (1) The child was born out of wedlock.
- (2) The child is not claimed as a dependent on the parent's federal income tax return.
- (3) The child does not reside with the parent or within the insurer's service area.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in any case in which a parent is required by a court or administrative order to provide health insurance coverage for a child and the parent is eligible for family health coverage through an employer or an insurer, the employer or insurer shall do all of the following, as applicable:
- (1) Permit the parent to enroll under health insurance coverage any child who is otherwise eligible to enroll for that coverage, without regard to any enrollment period restrictions.
- (2) If the parent is enrolled in health insurance coverage but fails to apply to obtain coverage of the child, enroll that child under the health coverage upon presentation of the court order or request by the local child support agency, the other parent or person having custody of the child, or the Medi-Cal program.
- (3) The employer or insurer shall not disenroll or eliminate coverage of a child unless either of the following applies:
- (A) The employer has eliminated family health insurance coverage for all of the employer's employees.
- (B) The employer or insurer is provided with satisfactory written evidence that either of the following apply:

Ch. 808 — **26** —

(i) The court order or administrative order is no longer in effect or is terminated pursuant to Section 3770.

- (ii) The child is or will be enrolled in comparable health insurance coverage through another insurer that will take effect not later than the effective date of the child's disenrollment.
- (c) In any case in which health insurance coverage is provided for a child pursuant to a court or administrative order, the insurer shall do all of the following:
- (1) Provide any information, including, but not limited to, the health insurance membership or identification card regarding the child, the evidence of coverage and disclosure form, and any other information provided to the covered parent about the child's health care coverage to the noncovered parent having custody of the child or any other person having custody of the child and to the local child support agency when requested by the local child support agency.
- (2) Permit the noncovered parent or person having custody of the child, or a provider with the approval of the noncovered parent or person having custody, to submit claims for covered services without the approval of the covered parent.
- (3) Make payment on claims submitted in accordance with subparagraph (2) directly to the noncovered parent or person having custody, the provider, or to the Medi-Cal program. Payment on claims for services provided to the child shall be made to the covered parent for claims submitted or paid by the covered parent.
- (d) For purposes of this section, "insurer" includes every health care service plan, self-insured welfare benefit plan, including those regulated pursuant to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 1001, et seq.), self-funded employer plan, disability insurer, nonprofit hospital service plan, labor union trust fund, employer, and any other similar plan, insurer, or entity offering a health coverage plan.
- (e) For purposes of this section, "person having custody of the child" is defined as a legal guardian, a caregiver who is authorized to enroll the child in school or to authorize medical care for the child pursuant to Section 6550, or a person with whom the child resides.
- (f) For purposes of this section, "employer" has the meaning provided in Section 5210.
- (g) For purposes of this section, the insurer shall notify the covered parent and noncovered parent having custody of the child or any other person having custody of the child in writing at any time that health insurance for the child is terminated.
- (h) The requirements of subdivision (g) shall not apply unless the court, employer, or person having custody of the child provides the insurer with a qualified medical child support order that meets the requirements of subdivision (a) of Section 1169 of Title 29 of the United States Code, and that order includes an address for the noncovered parent or other person having custody of the child.

**— 27** — Ch. 808

- (i) The noncovered parent or person having custody of the child may contact the insurer, by telephone or in writing, and request information about the health insurance coverage for the child. Upon request of the noncovered parent or person having custody of the child, the insurer shall provide the requested information that is specific to the health insurance coverage for the child.
  - SEC. 30. Section 3752 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 3752. (a) If the local child support agency has been designated as the assigned payee for child support, the court shall order the parent to notify the local child support agency upon applying for and obtaining health insurance coverage for the child within a reasonable period of time.
- (b) The local child support agency shall obtain a completed medical form from the parent in accordance with Section 17422 and shall forward the completed form to the State Department of Health Services.
- (c) In those cases where the local child support agency is providing medical support enforcement services, the local child support agency shall provide the parent or person having custody of the child with information pertaining to the health insurance policy that has been secured for the child.
  - SEC. 31. Section 3761 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 3761. (a) Upon application by a party or local child support agency in any proceeding where the court has ordered either or both parents to maintain health insurance coverage under Article 1 (commencing with Section 3750), the court shall order the employer of the obligor parent or other person providing health insurance to the obligor to enroll the supported child in the health insurance plan available to the obligor through the employer or other person and to deduct the appropriate premium or costs, if any, from the earnings of the obligor unless the court makes a finding of good cause for not making the order.
- (b) (1) The application shall state that the party or local child support agency seeking the assignment order has given the obligor a written notice of the intent to seek a health insurance coverage assignment order in the event of a default in instituting coverage required by court order on behalf of the parties' child and that the notice was transmitted by first-class mail, postage prepaid, or personally served at least 15 days before the date of the filing of the application for the order. The written notice of the intent to seek an assignment order required by this subdivision may be given at the time of filing a petition or complaint for support or at any later time, but shall be given at least 15 days before the date of filing the application under this section. The obligor may at any time waive the written notice required by this subdivision.
- (2) The party or local child support agency seeking the assignment order shall file a certificate of service showing the

Ch. 808 — **28** —

method and date of service of the order and the statements required under Section 3772 upon the employer or provider of health insurance.

- (c) The total amount that may be withheld from earnings for all obligations, including health insurance assignments, is limited by subdivision (a) of Section 706.052 of the Code of Civil Procedure or Section 1673 of Title 15 of the United States Code, whichever is less.
  - SEC. 32. Section 3771 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 3771. Upon request of the local child support agency the employer shall provide the following information to the local child support agency within 30 days:
  - (a) The social security number of the absent parent.
  - (b) The home address of the absent parent.
- (c) Whether the absent parent has a health insurance policy and, if so, the policy names and numbers, and the names of the persons covered.
- (d) Whether the health insurance policy provides coverage for dependent children of the absent parent who do not reside in the absent parent's home.
- (e) If there is a subsequent lapse in health insurance coverage, the employer shall notify the local child support agency, giving the date the coverage ended, the reason for the lapse in coverage and, if the lapse is temporary, the date upon which coverage is expected to resume.
  - SEC. 33. Section 4006 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4006. In a proceeding for child support under this code, including, but not limited to, Division 17 (commencing with Section 17000), the court shall consider the health insurance coverage, if any, of the parties to the proceeding.
  - SEC. 34. Section 4009 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4009. Except as provided in Section 17402, an original order for child support may be made retroactive to the date of filing the petition, complaint, or other initial pleading. If the parent ordered to pay support was not served with the petition, complaint, or other initial pleading within 90 days after filing and the court finds that the parent was not intentionally evading service, the child support order shall be effective no earlier than the date of service.
  - SEC. 35. Section 4065 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4065. (a) Unless prohibited by applicable federal law, the parties may stipulate to a child support amount subject to approval of the court. However, the court shall not approve a stipulated agreement for child support below the guideline formula amount unless the parties declare all of the following:
- (1) They are fully informed of their rights concerning child support.
  - (2) The order is being agreed to without coercion or duress.
  - (3) The agreement is in the best interests of the children involved.

**— 29** — Ch. 808

(4) The needs of the children will be adequately met by the stipulated amount.

- (5) The right to support has not been assigned to the county pursuant to Section 11477 of the Welfare and Institutions Code and no public assistance application is pending.
- (b) The parties may, by stipulation, require the child support obligor to designate an account for the purpose of paying the child support obligation by electronic funds transfer pursuant to Section 4508.
- (c) A stipulated agreement of child support is not valid unless the local child support agency has joined in the stipulation by signing it in any case in which the local child support agency is providing services pursuant to Section 17400. The local child support agency shall not stipulate to a child support order below the guideline amount if the children are receiving assistance under the CalWORKs program, if an application for public assistance is pending, or if the parent receiving support has not consented to the order.
- (d) If the parties to a stipulated agreement stipulate to a child support order below the amount established by the statewide uniform guideline, no change of circumstances need be demonstrated to obtain a modification of the child support order to the applicable guideline level or above.
  - SEC. 36. Section 4200 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4200. In any proceeding where a court makes or has made an order requiring the payment of child support to a parent receiving welfare moneys for the maintenance of children for whom support may be ordered, the court shall do both of the following:
- (a) Direct that the payments of support shall be made to the county officer designated by the court for that purpose. Once the Child Support Centralized Collection and Distribution Unit is implemented pursuant to Section 17309, all payments shall be directed to the Child Support Centralized Collection and Distribution Unit instead of the county officer designated by the court
- (b) Direct the local child support agency to appear on behalf of the welfare recipient in any proceeding to enforce the order.
  - SEC. 37. Section 4201 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4201. In any proceeding where a court makes or has made an order requiring the payment of child support to the person having custody of a child for whom support may be ordered, the court may do either or both of the following:
- (a) Direct that the payments shall be made to the county officer designated by the court for that purpose. Once the Child Support Centralized Collection and Distribution Unit is implemented pursuant to Section 17309, all payments shall be directed to the Child Support Centralized Collection and Distribution Unit instead of the county officer designated by the court.

Ch. 808 — **30** —

- (b) Direct the local child support agency to appear on behalf of the minor children in any proceeding to enforce the order.
  - SEC. 38. Section 4202 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4202. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in a proceeding where the custodial parent resides in one county and the parent ordered to pay support resides in another county, the court may direct payment to be made to the county officer designated by the court for those purposes in the county of residence of the custodial parent, and may direct the local child support agency of either county to enforce the order.
- (b) Civil enforcement by the local child support agency of the county of residence of the custodial parent, where the order is in the county of the noncustodial parent or any other county, may be brought in accordance with Section 4848. If the court directs the local child support agency of the county of residence of the noncustodial parent to enforce the order, the expenses of the local child support agency with respect to the enforcement is a charge upon the county of residence of the noncustodial parent.
  - SEC. 39. Section 4203 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4203. (a) Except as provided in Section 4202, expenses of the county officer designated by the court, and expenses of the local child support agency incurred in the enforcement of an order of the type described in Section 4200 or 4201, are a charge upon the county where the proceedings are pending.
- (b) Fees for service of process in the enforcement of an order of the type described in Section 4200 or 4201 are a charge upon the county where the process is served.
  - SEC. 40. Section 4204 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4204. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in proceeding where the court has made an order requiring the payment of child support to a person having custody of a child and the child support is subsequently assigned to the county pursuant to Section 11477 of the Welfare and Institutions Code or the person having custody has requested the local child support agency to provide child support enforcement services pursuant to Section 17400, the local child support agency may issue a notice directing that the payments shall be made to the local child support agency, another office, or the Child Support Centralized Distribution Unit pursuant to Section 17309. The notice shall be served on both the support obligor and obligee in compliance with Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure. The local child support agency shall file the notice in the action in which the support order was issued.
  - SEC. 41. Section 4205 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4205. Any notice from the local child support agency requesting a meeting with the support obligor for any purpose authorized under

— **31** — Ch. 808

this part shall contain a statement advising the support obligor of his or her right to have an attorney present at the meeting.

- SEC. 42. Section 4250 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4250. (a) The Legislature finds and declares the following:
- (1) Child and spousal support are serious legal obligations.
- (2) The current system for obtaining, modifying, and enforcing child and spousal support orders is inadequate to meet the future needs of California's children due to burgeoning caseloads within local child support agencies and the growing number of parents who are representing themselves in family law actions.
- (3) The success of California's child support enforcement program depends upon its ability to establish and enforce child support orders quickly and efficiently.
- (4) There is a compelling state interest in creating an expedited process in the courts that is cost-effective and accessible to families, for establishing and enforcing child support orders in cases being enforced by the local child support agency.
- (5) There is a compelling state interest in having a simple, speedy, conflict-reducing system, that is both cost-effective and accessible to families, for resolving all issues concerning children, including support, health insurance, custody, and visitation in family law cases that do not involve enforcement by the local child support agency.
- (b) Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature to: (1) provide for commissioners to hear child support cases being enforced by the local child support agency; (2) adopt uniform and simplified procedures for all child support cases; and (3) create an Office of the Family Law Facilitator in the courts to provide education, information, and assistance to parents with child support issues.
  - SEC. 43. Section 4251 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4251. (a) Commencing July 1, 1997, each superior court shall provide sufficient commissioners to hear Title IV-D child support cases filed by the local child support agency. The number of child support commissioners required in each county shall be determined by the Judicial Council as prescribed by paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 4252. All actions or proceedings filed by the local child support agency in a support action or proceeding in which enforcement services are being provided pursuant to Section 17400, for an order to establish, modify, or enforce child or spousal support, including actions to establish paternity, shall be referred for hearing to a child support commissioner unless a child support commissioner is not available due to exceptional circumstances, as prescribed by the Judicial Council pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 4252. All actions or proceedings filed by a party other than the local child support agency to modify or enforce a support order established by the local child support agency or for which enforcement services are being provided pursuant to Section 17400 shall be referred for hearing to a child support commissioner unless

Ch. 808 — **32** —

a child support commissioner is not available due to exceptional circumstances, as prescribed by the Judicial Council pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 4252.

- (b) The commissioner shall act as a temporary judge unless an objection is made by the local child support agency or any other party. The Judicial Council shall develop a notice which shall be included on all forms and pleadings used to initiate a child support action or proceeding that advises the parties of their right to review by a superior court judge and how to exercise that right. The parties shall also be advised by the court prior to the commencement of the hearing that the matter is being heard by a commissioner who shall act as a temporary judge unless any party objects to the commissioner acting as a temporary judge. While acting as a temporary judge, the commissioner shall receive compensation other no compensation as a commissioner.
- (c) If any party objects to the commissioner acting as a temporary judge, the commissioner may hear the matter and make findings of fact and a recommended order. Within 10 court days, a judge shall ratify the recommended order unless either party objects to the recommended order, or where a recommended order is in error. In both cases, the judge shall issue a temporary order and schedule a hearing de novo within 10 court days. Any party may waive his or her right to the review hearing at any time.
- (d) The commissioner shall, where appropriate, do any of the following:
- (1) Review and determine ex parte applications for orders and writs.
  - (2) Take testimony.
- (3) Establish a record, evaluate evidence, and make recommendations or decisions.
- (4) Enter judgments or orders based upon voluntary acknowledgments of support liability and parentage and stipulated agreements respecting the amount of child support to be paid.
  - (5) Enter default orders and judgments pursuant to Section 4253.
- (6) In actions in which paternity is at issue, order the mother, child, and alleged father to submit to genetic tests.
- (e) The commissioner shall, upon application of any party, join issues concerning custody, visitation, and protective orders in the action filed by the local child support agency, subject to Section 17404. After joinder, the commissioner shall:
- (1) Refer the parents for mediation of disputed custody or visitation issues pursuant to Section 3170 of the Family Code.
- (2) Accept stipulated agreements concerning custody, visitation, and protective orders and enter orders pursuant to the agreements.
- (3) Refer contested issues of custody, visitation, and protective orders to a judge or to another commissioner for hearing. A child support commissioner may hear contested custody, visitation, and

**— 33** — Ch. 808

restraining order issues only if the court has adopted procedures to segregate the costs of hearing Title IV-D child support issues from the costs of hearing other issues pursuant to applicable federal requirements.

- (f) The local child support agency shall be served notice by the moving party of any proceeding under this section in which support is at issue. Any order for support that is entered without the local child support agency having received proper notice shall be voidable upon the motion of the local child support agency.
  - SEC. 44. Section 4351 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4351. (a) In any proceeding where the court has entered an order pursuant to Section 4350, the court may also refer the matter of enforcement of the spousal support order to the local child support agency. The local child support agency may bring those enforcement proceedings it determines to be appropriate.
- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), in any case in which the local child support agency is required to appear on behalf of a welfare recipient in a proceeding to enforce an order requiring payment of child support, the local child support agency shall also enforce any order requiring payment to the welfare recipient of spousal support that is in arrears.
- (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the district attorney or the local child support agency from bringing an action or initiating process to enforce or punish the failure to obey an order for spousal support under any provision of law that empowers the district attorney or the local child support agency to bring an action or initiate a process, whether or not there has been a referral by the court pursuant to this chapter.
- (d) Any notice from the district attorney or the local child support agency requesting a meeting with the support obligor for any purpose authorized under this part shall contain a statement advising the support obligor of his or her right to have an attorney present at the meeting.
  - SEC. 45. Section 4352 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4352. (a) Insofar as expenses of the county officer designated by the court and expenses of the local child support agency incurred in the enforcement of an order referred by the court under this chapter exceed any service charge imposed under Section 279 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, the expenses are a charge upon the county where the proceedings are pending.
- (b) Fees for service of process in the enforcement of an order referred by the court under this chapter are a charge upon the county where the process is served.
  - SEC. 45.5. Section 4502 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4502. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a judgment for child, family, or spousal support, including a judgment for reimbursement that includes, but is not limited to,

Ch. 808 — **34** —

reimbursement arising under Section 17402 or other arrearages, including all lawful interest and penalties computed thereon, is enforceable until paid in full and is exempt from any requirement that judgments be renewed.

- (b) Although not required, a judgment described in subdivision (a) may be renewed pursuant to the procedure applicable to money judgments generally under Article 2 (commencing with Section 683.110) of Chapter 3 of Division 1 of Title 9 of Part 2 of the Code of Civil Procedure. As provided in subdivision (a), the option of renewing the judgment has no effect on the enforceability of the amount due. An application for renewal of a judgment described in subdivision (a), whether or not payable in installments, may be filed:
- (1) If the judgment has not previously been renewed as to past due amounts, at any time.
- (2) If the judgment has previously been renewed the amount of the judgment as previously renewed and any past due amount that became due and payable after the previous renewal may be renewed at any time after a period of at least five years has elapsed from the time the judgment was previously renewed.

SEC. 46. Section 4506.3 of the Family Code is amended to read:

4506.3. The Judicial Council, in consultation with the California Family Support Council, the Department of Child Support Services, and title insurance industry representatives, shall develop a single form, which conforms with the requirements of Section 27361.6 of the Government Code, for the substitution of payee, for notice directing payment of support to the local child support agency pursuant to Section 4204, and for notice that support has been assigned pursuant to Section 11477 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. The form shall be available no later than July 1, 1998.

SEC. 47. Section 4573 of the Family Code is amended to read:

4573. If support is ordered to be paid through the local child support agency on behalf of a child not receiving public assistance pursuant to the Family Economic Security Act of 1982 (Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11200) of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code), the local child support agency shall forward the support received pursuant to this chapter to the custodial parent or other person having care or control of the child or children involved.

SEC. 48. Section 4701 of the Family Code is amended to read:

- 4701. (a) The Department of Child Support Services shall administer a statewide automated system for the reporting of court-ordered child support obligations to credit reporting agencies.
- (b) The department shall design and develop standards for the system in conjunction with representatives of the California Family Support Council and the credit reporting industry.
- (c) The standards for the system shall be consistent with credit reporting industry standards and reporting format and with the

**— 35** — Ch. 808

department's statewide central automated system for support enforcement.

- (d) The standards shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:
- (1) Court-ordered child support obligations and delinquent payments, including amounts owed and by whom. The California local child support agencies, on a monthly basis, shall update this information, and then submit it to the department which, in turn, shall consolidate and transmit it to the credit reporting agencies.
- (2) Before the initial reporting of a court-ordered child support obligation or a delinquent payment, the local child support agency shall attempt to notify the obligor parent of the proposed action and give 30 days to contest in writing the accuracy of the information, or to pay the arrearage, if any, in compliance with the due process requirements of the laws of this state.
- (e) The department and the local child support agencies are responsible for the accuracy of information provided pursuant to this section, and the information shall be based upon the data available at the time the information is provided. Each of these organizations and the credit reporting agencies shall follow reasonable procedures to ensure maximum possible accuracy of the information provided. Neither the department, nor the local child support agencies are liable for any consequences of the failure of a parent to contest the accuracy of the information within the time allowed under paragraph (2) of subdivision (d).
  - SEC. 49. Section 4721 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4721. (a) This chapter applies only to installments of child support that are due on or after January 1, 1992.
- (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the penalties provided under this chapter shall be applied in egregious instances of noncompliance with child support orders.
- (c) It is the intent of the Legislature that for the purposes of this chapter, payments made through wage assignments are considered timely regardless of the date of receipt by the local child support agency or obligee.
  - SEC. 50. Section 4729 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 4729. The local child support agency or any other agency providing support enforcement services pursuant to Title IV-D of the federal Social Security Act may not enforce child support obligations utilizing the penalties provided for by this chapter.
  - SEC. 51. Section 5000 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5000. (a) When a petition or comparable pleading pursuant to this chapter is filed in a court of this state, the local child support agency or petitioner may either (1) request the issuance of a summons or (2) request the court to issue an order requiring the respondent to appear personally at a specified time and place to show

Ch. 808 — **36** —

cause why an order should not be issued as prayed in the petition or comparable pleading on file.

- (b) If a summons is issued for a petition or comparable pleading pursuant to this chapter, the local child support agency or petitioner shall cause a copy of the summons, petition, and other documents to be served upon the respondent according to law.
- (c) If an order to show cause is issued on a petition or comparable pleading pursuant to this chapter requiring the respondent to appear at a specified time and place to respond to the petition, a copy of the order to show cause, the petition, and other documents shall be served upon the respondent at least 15 days prior to the hearing.
- (d) A petition or comparable pleading pursuant to this chapter served upon a respondent in accordance with this section shall be accompanied by a blank responsive form that shall permit the respondent to answer the petition and raise any defenses by checking applicable boxes and by a blank income and expense declaration or simplified financial statement together with instructions for completion of the forms.

SEC. 52. Section 5001 of the Family Code is amended to read:

- 5001. (a) If, prior to filing, a petition or comparable pleading pursuant to this chapter is received by the local child support agency or the superior court and the county in which the pleadings are received is not the appropriate jurisdiction for trial of the action, the court or the local child support agency shall forward the pleadings and any accompanying documents to the appropriate court of this state or to the jurisdiction of another state without filing the pleadings or order of the court, and shall notify the petitioner, the California Central Registry, and the local child support agency of the receiving county where and when the pleading was sent.
- (b) If, after a petition or comparable pleading pursuant to this chapter has been filed with the superior court of a county, it appears that the respondent is not or is no longer a resident of the county in which the action has been filed, upon ex parte application by the local child support agency or petitioner, the court shall transfer the action to the appropriate court of this state or to the appropriate jurisdiction of another state and shall notify the petitioner, the respondent, the California Central Registry, and the local child support agency of the receiving county where and when the pleading was sent.
- (c) If, after entry of an order by a court of this state on an action filed pursuant to this chapter or an order of another state registered in a court of this state for enforcement or modification pursuant to this chapter, it appears that the respondent is not or is no longer a resident of the county in which the foreign order has been registered, upon ex parte application by the local child support agency of the transferring or receiving county or the petitioner, the court shall transfer the registered order and all documents subsequently filed in that action to the appropriate court of this state and shall notify the

— **37** — Ch. 808

petitioner, the respondent, the California Central Registry, and the local child support agency of the transferring and receiving county where and when the registered order and all other appropriate documents were sent. Transfer of certified copies of documents shall meet the requirements of this section.

- (d) If, in an action initiated in a court of this state pursuant to this chapter or a predecessor law for interstate enforcement of support, the petitioner is no longer a resident of the county in which the action has been filed, upon ex parte application by the petitioner or the local child support agency, the court shall transfer the action to the appropriate court of this state and shall notify the responding jurisdiction where and when the action was transferred.
- (e) Notwithstanding subdivisions (b) and (c), above, if the respondent becomes a resident of another county or jurisdiction after an action or registered order under this chapter has been filed, the action may remain in the county where the action was filed until the action is completed.

SEC. 53. Section 5002 of the Family Code is amended to read:

- 5002. (a) In an action pursuant to this chapter prosecuted by the local child support agency or the Attorney General that is initiated by service of summons and petition or other comparable pleading, the respondent may also be served with a proposed judgment consistent with the relief sought in the petition or other comparable pleading. If the respondent's income or income history is unknown to the local child support agency, the local child support agency may serve a form of proposed judgment with the petition and other documents on the respondent that shall inform the respondent that income shall be presumed in an amount that results in a court order equal to the minimum basic standard of adequate care for Region I provided in Sections 11452 and 11452.018 of the Welfare and Institutions Code unless information concerning the respondent's income is provided to the court. The respondent shall also receive notice that the proposed judgment will become effective if he or she fails to file a response with the court within 30 days after service.
- (b) In any action pursuant to this chapter in which the judgment was obtained pursuant to presumed income, as set forth in this section, the court may relieve the respondent from that part of the judgment or order concerning the amount of child support to be paid in the manner set forth in Section 17432.
  - SEC. 54. Section 5100 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5100. Notwithstanding Section 290, a child, family, or spousal support order may be enforced by a writ of execution or a notice of levy pursuant to Section 706.030 of the Code of Civil Procedure or Section 17522 of this code without prior court approval.
  - SEC. 55. Section 5101 of the Family Code is repealed.
  - SEC. 56. Section 5102 of the Family Code is repealed.
  - SEC. 57. Section 5214 of the Family Code is amended to read:

Ch. 808 — **38** —

- 5214. "Obligee" or "assigned obligee" means either the person to whom support has been ordered to be paid, the local child support agency, or other person designated by the court to receive the payment. The local child support agency is the obligee for all IV-D Cases as defined under Section 5212 or in which an application for services has been filed under Part D (commencing with Section 651) and Part E (commencing with Section 670) of Subchapter IV of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code (Title IV-D or IV-E of the Social Security Act).
  - SEC. 57.3. Section 5230 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5230. (a) When the court orders a party to pay an amount for support or orders a modification of the amount of support to be paid, the court shall include in its order an earnings assignment order for support that orders the employer of the obligor to pay to the obligee that portion of the obligor's earnings due or to become due in the future as will be sufficient to pay an amount to cover both of the following:
  - (1) The amount ordered by the court for support.
- (2) An amount which shall be ordered by the court to be paid toward the liquidation of any arrearage.
- (b) An earnings assignment order for support shall be issued, and shall be effective and enforceable pursuant to Section 5231, notwithstanding the absence of the name, address, or other identifying information regarding the obligor's employer.
  - SEC. 57.5. Section 5231 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5231. Unless stayed pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with Section 5260), an assignment order is effective and binding upon any existing or future employer of the obligor upon whom a copy of the order is served in compliance with Sections 5232 and 5233, notwithstanding the absence of the name, address, or other identifying information regarding the obligor's employer, or the inclusion of incorrect information regarding the support obligor's employer.
  - SEC. 58. Section 5235 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5235. (a) The employer shall continue to withhold and forward support as required by the assignment order until served with notice terminating the assignment order. If an employer withholds support as required by the assignment order, the obligor shall not be held in contempt or subject to criminal prosecution for nonpayment of the support that was withheld by the employer but not received by the obligee. If the employer withheld the support but failed to forward the payments to the obligee, the employer shall be liable for the payments, including interest, as provided in Section 5241.
- (b) Within 10 days of service of a substitution of payee on the employer, the employer shall forward all subsequent support to the governmental entity or other payee that sent the substitution.

**— 39** — Ch. 808

- (c) The employer shall send the amounts withheld to the obligee within the timeframe specified in federal law and shall report to the obligee the date on which the amount was withheld from the obligor's wages.
- (d) The employer may deduct from the earnings of the employee the sum of one dollar (\$1) for each payment made pursuant to the order.
- (e) Once the Child Support Centralized Collection and Distribution Unit as required by Section 17309 is operational, the employer shall send all earnings withheld pursuant to this chapter to the Child Support Centralized Collection and Distribution Unit instead of the obligee.
  - SEC. 59. Section 5237 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5237. (a) Except as provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), the obligee shall notify the employer of the obligor, by first-class mail, postage prepaid, of any change of address within a reasonable period of time after the change.
- (b) Where payments have been ordered to be made to a county officer designated by the court, the obligee who is the parent, guardian, or other person entitled to receive payment through the designated county officer shall notify the designated county officer by first-class mail, postage prepaid, of any address change within a reasonable period of time after the change.
- (c) If the obligee is receiving support payments from the Child Support Centralized Collection and Distribution Unit as required by Section 17309, the obligee shall notify the Child Support Centralized Collection and Distribution Unit instead of the employer of the obligor as provided in subdivision (a).
- (d) If the employer, designated county officer, or the Child Support Centralized Collection and Distribution Unit is unable to deliver payments under the assignment order for a period of six months due to the failure of the obligee to notify the employer or designated county officer of a change of address, the employer or designated county officer shall not make any further payments under the assignment order and shall return all undeliverable payments to the obligor.
  - SEC. 60. Section 5241 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5241. (a) An employer who willfully fails to withhold and forward support pursuant to a currently valid assignment order entered and served upon the employer pursuant to this chapter is liable to the obligee for the amount of support not withheld, forwarded, or otherwise paid to the obligee, including any interest thereon.
- (b) If an employer withholds support as required by the assignment order, the obligor shall not be held in contempt or subject to criminal prosecution for nonpayment of the support that was withheld by the employer but not received by the obligee.

Ch. 808 — **40** —

- (c) In addition to any other penalty or liability provided by law, willful failure by an employer to comply with an assignment order is punishable as a contempt pursuant to Section 1218 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- (d) If an employer withholds support, as required by the assignment order, but fails to forward the support to the obligee, the local child support agency shall take appropriate action to collect the withheld sums from the employer. This provision shall not be construed to expand or limit the duties and obligations of the Labor Commissioner, as set forth in Section 200 and following of the Labor Code
  - SEC. 61. Section 5244 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5244. A reference to the local child support agency in this chapter applies only when the local child support agency is otherwise ordered or required to act pursuant to law. Nothing in this chapter shall be deemed to mandate additional enforcement or collection duties upon the local child support agency beyond those otherwise imposed by law.
  - SEC. 62. Section 5245 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5245. Nothing in this chapter limits the authority of the local child support agency to use any other civil and criminal remedies to enforce support obligations, regardless of whether or not the child or the obligee who is the parent, guardian, or other person entitled to receive payment is the recipient of welfare moneys.
  - SEC. 62.3. Section 5246 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5246. (a) This section applies only to Title IV-D cases where support enforcement services are being provided by the local child support agency pursuant to Section 17400.
- (b) In lieu of an earnings assignment order signed by a judicial officer, the local child support agency may serve on the employer a notice of assignment in the manner specified in Section 5232. An order/notice to withhold income for child support shall have the same force and effect as an earnings assignment order signed by a judicial officer. An order/notice to withhold income for child support, when used under this section, shall be considered a notice and shall not require the signature of a judicial officer.
- (c) Pursuant to Section 666 of Title 42 of the United States Code, the federally mandated order/notice to withhold income for child support shall be used for the purposes described in this section.
- (d) If the underlying court order for support does not provide for an arrearage payment, or if an additional arrearage accrues after the date of the court order for support, the local child support agency may send an order/notice to withhold income for child support that shall be used for the purposes described in this section directly to the employer which specifies the updated arrearage amount and directs the employer to withhold an additional amount to be applied towards liquidation of the arrearages not to exceed the maximum amount

**—41** — Ch. 808

permitted by Section 1673(b) of Title 15 of the United States Code. The Franchise Tax Board, in support of its responsibility for accounts receivable management of delinquent child support obligations pursuant to Section 17501, may send an order/notice to withhold income for child support directly to the employer that specifies the updated arrearage amount and directs the employer to withhold an additional amount to be applied to the liquidation of the arrearages. Any order/notice to withhold income for child support issued by the Franchise Tax Board shall be issued in the name of the local child support agency.

- (e) If the obligor requests a hearing, a hearing date shall be scheduled within 20 days of the filing of the request with the court. The clerk of the court shall provide notice of the hearing to the local child support agency and the obligor no later than 10 days prior to the hearing.
- (1) If at the hearing the obligor establishes that he or she is not the obligor or good cause or an alternative arrangement as provided in Section 5260, the court may order that service of the order/notice to withhold income for child support be quashed. If the court quashes service of the order/notice to withhold income for child support, the local child support agency shall notify the employer within 10 days.
- (2) If the obligor contends at the hearing that the payment of arrearages at the rate specified in the order/notice to withhold income for child support is excessive or that the total arrearages owing is incorrect, and if it is determined that payment of the arrearages at the rate specified in this section creates an undue hardship upon the obligor or that the withholding would exceed the maximum amount permitted by Section 1673(b) of Title 15 of the United States Code Annotated, the rate at which the arrearages must be paid shall be reduced to a rate that is fair and reasonable considering the circumstances of the parties and the best interest of the child. If it is determined at a hearing that the total amount of arrearages calculated is erroneous, the court shall modify the amount calculated to the correct amount. If the court modifies the total amount of arrearages owed or reduces the monthly payment due on the arrearages, the local child support agency shall serve the employer with an amended order/notice to withhold income for child support within 10 days.
- (f) If an obligor's current support obligation has terminated by operation of law, the local child support agency may serve an order/notice to withhold income for child support on the employer which directs the employer to continue withholding from the obligor's earnings an amount to be applied towards liquidation of the arrearages, not to exceed the maximum amount permitted by Section 1673(b) of Title 15 of the United States Code, until such time that the employer is notified by the local child support agency that the arrearages have been paid in full. The employer shall provide the

Ch. 808 — **42** —

obligor with a copy of the order/notice to withhold income for child support and a blank form that the obligor may file with the court to request a hearing to modify or quash the assignment with instructions on how to file the form and obtain a hearing date. The obligor shall be entitled to the same rights to a hearing as specified in subdivision (e).

- (g) The local child support agency shall retain a copy of the order/notice to withhold income for child support and shall file a copy with the court whenever a hearing concerning the order/notice to withhold income for child support is requested.
- (h) The local child support agency may transmit an order/notice to withhold income for child support and other forms required by this section to the employer through electronic means.
  - SEC. 63. Section 5247 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5247. Neither the local child support agency nor an employer shall be subject to any civil liability for any amount withheld and paid to the obligee, the local child support agency, or the Child Support Centralized Collection and Distribution Unit pursuant to an earnings assignment order or notice of assignment.
  - SEC. 64. Section 5252 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5252. (a) An assignment order under this article may be issued only upon an application signed under penalty of perjury by the obligee that the obligor is in default in support payments in a sum equal to the amount of support payable for one month, for any other occurrence specified by the court in the support order, or earlier by court order if requested by the local child support agency or the obligor.
- (b) If the order for support does not contain a provision for an earnings assignment order for support, the application shall state that the obligee has given the obligor a written notice of the obligee's intent to seek an assignment order if there is a default in support payments and that the notice was transmitted by first-class mail, postage prepaid, or personally served at least 15 days before the date of the filing of the application. The written notice of the intent to seek an assignment order may be given at any time, including at the time of filing a petition or complaint in which support is requested or at any time subsequent thereto. The obligor may at any time waive the written notice required by this subdivision.
- (c) In addition to any other penalty provided by law, the filing of the application with knowledge of the falsity of the declaration or notice is punishable as a contempt pursuant to Section 1209 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
  - SEC. 65. Section 5260 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5260. (a) The court may order that service of the assignment order be stayed only if the court makes a finding of good cause or if an alternative arrangement exists for payment in accordance with paragraph (2) of subdivision (b). Notwithstanding any other

**— 43** — Ch. 808

provision of law, service of wage assignments issued for foreign orders for support, and service of foreign orders for the assignment of wages registered pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 4820) of Chapter 6 shall not be stayed pursuant to this subdivision.

- (b) For purposes of this section, good cause or an alternative arrangement for staying an assignment order is as follows:
- (1) Good cause for staying a wage assignment exists only when all of the following conditions exist:
- (A) The court provides a written explanation of why the stay of the wage assignment would be in the best interests of the child.
- (B) The obligor has a history of uninterrupted, full, and timely payment, other than through a wage assignment or other mandatory process of previously ordered support, during the previous 12 months.
  - (C) The obligor does not owe an arrearage for prior support.
- (D) The obligor proves, and the court finds, by clear and convincing evidence that service of the wage assignment would cause extraordinary hardship upon the obligor. Whenever possible, the court shall specify a date that any stay ordered under this section will automatically terminate.
- (2) An alternative arrangement for staying a wage assignment order shall require a written agreement between the parties that provides for payment of the support obligation as ordered other than through the immediate service of a wage assignment. Any agreement between the parties which includes the staying of a service of a wage assignment shall include the concurrence of the local child support agency in any case in which support is ordered to be paid through a county officer designated for that purpose. The execution of an agreement pursuant to this paragraph shall not preclude a party from thereafter seeking a wage assignment in accordance with the procedures specified in Section 5261 upon violation of the agreement.
  - SEC. 66. Section 5261 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5261. (a) If service of the assignment order has been ordered stayed, the stay shall terminate pursuant to subdivision (b) upon the obligor's failure to make timely support payments or earlier by court order if requested by the local child support agency or by the obligor. The stay shall terminate earlier by court order if requested by any other obligee who can establish that good cause, as defined in Section 5260, no longer exists.
- (b) To terminate a stay of the service of the assignment order, the obligee shall file a declaration signed under penalty of perjury by the obligee that the obligor is in arrears in payment of any portion of the support. At the time of filing the declaration, the stay shall terminate by operation of law without notice to the obligor.
- (c) In addition to any other penalty provided by law, the filing of a declaration under subdivision (b) with knowledge of the falsity of

Ch. 808 — **44** —

its contents is punishable as a contempt pursuant to Section 1209 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

- SEC. 67. Section 5280 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5280. If the obligee making the application under this chapter also states that the whereabouts of the obligor or the identity of the obligor's employer is unknown to the party to whom support has been ordered to be paid, the local child support agency shall do both of the following:
- (a) Contact the California parent locator service maintained by the Department of Justice in the manner prescribed in Section 17506.
- (b) Upon receiving the requested information, notify the court of the last known address of the obligor and the name and address of the obligor's last known employer.
  - SEC. 68. Section 5600 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5600. (a) A local child support agency or obligee may register an order for support or earnings withholding, or both, obtained in another county of the state.
- (b) An obligee may register a support order in the court of another county of this state in the manner, with the effect, and for the purposes provided in this part. The orders may be registered in any county in which the obligor, the obligee, or the child who is the subject of the order resides, or in any county in which the obligor has income, assets, or any other property.
  - SEC. 69. Section 5601 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5601. (a) When the local child support agency is responsible for the enforcement of a support order pursuant to Section 17400, the local child support agency may register a support order made in another county by utilizing the procedures set forth in Section 5602 or by filing all of the following in the superior court of his or her county:
- (1) An endorsed file copy of the most recent support order or a copy thereof.
- (2) A statement of arrearages, including an accounting of amounts ordered and paid each month, together with any added costs, fees, and interest.
- (3) A statement prepared by the local child support agency showing the post office address of the local child support agency, the last known place of residence or post office address of the obligor; the most recent address of the obligor set forth in the licensing records of the Department of Motor Vehicles, if known; and a list of other states and counties in California that are known to the local child support agency in which the original order of support and any modifications are registered.
- (b) The filing of the documents described in subdivision (a) constitutes registration under this chapter.
- (c) Promptly upon registration, the local child support agency shall, in compliance with the requirements of Section 1013 of the

**— 45** — Ch. 808

Code of Civil Procedure, or in any other manner as provided by law, serve the obligor with copies of the documents described in subdivision (a).

- (d) If a motion to vacate registration is filed under Section 5603, any party may introduce into evidence copies of any pleadings, documents, or orders that have been filed in the original court or other courts where the support order has been registered or modified. Certified copies of the documents shall not be required unless a party objects to the authenticity or accuracy of the document in which case it shall be the responsibility of the party who is asserting the authenticity of the document to obtain a certified copy of the questioned document.
- (e) Upon registration, the clerk of the court shall forward a notice of registration to the courts in other counties and states in which the original order for support and any modifications were issued or registered. No further proceedings regarding the obligor's support obligations shall be filed in other counties.
- (f) The procedure prescribed by this section may also be used to register support or wage and earnings assignment orders of other California jurisdictions that previously have been registered for purposes of enforcement only pursuant to the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 4900)) in another California county. The local child support agency may register such an order by filing an endorsed file copy of the registered California order plus any subsequent orders, including procedural amendments.
- (g) The Judicial Council shall develop the forms necessary to effectuate this section. These forms shall be available no later than July 1, 1998.
  - SEC. 70. Section 5602 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 5602. (a) An obligee other than the local child support agency may register an order issued in this state using the same procedures specified in subdivision (a) of Section 5601, except that the obligee shall prepare and file the statement of registration. The statement shall be verified and signed by the obligee showing the mailing address of the obligee, the last known place of residence or mailing address of the obligor, and a list of other states and counties in California in which, to the obligee's knowledge, the original order of support and any modifications are registered.
- (b) Upon receipt of the documents described in subdivision (a) of Section 5601, the clerk of the court shall file them without payment of a filing fee or other cost to the obligee. The filing constitutes registration under this chapter.
- (c) Promptly upon registration, the clerk of the court shall send, by any form of mail requiring a return receipt from the addressee only, to the obligor at the address given a notice of the registration with a copy of the registered support order and the post office address

Ch. 808 — **46** —

of the obligee. Proof shall be made to the satisfaction of the court that the obligor personally received the notice of registration by mail or other method of service. A return receipt signed by the obligor shall be satisfactory evidence of personal receipt.

SEC. 71. Section 5603 of the Family Code is amended to read:

- 5603. (a) An obligor shall have 20 days after the service of notice of the registration of a California order of support in which to file a noticed motion requesting the court to vacate the registration or for other relief. In an action under this section, there shall be no joinder of actions, coordination of actions, or cross-complaints, and the claims or defenses shall be limited strictly to the identity of the obligor, the validity of the underlying California support order, or the accuracy of the obligee's statement of the amount of support remaining unpaid unless the amount has been previously established by a judgment or order. The obligor shall serve a copy of the motion, personally or by first-class mail, on the local child support agency, private attorney representing the obligee, or obligee representing himself or herself who filed the request for registration of the order, not less than 15 days prior to the date on which the motion is to be heard. If service is by mail, Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure applies. If the obligor does not file the motion within 20 days, the registered California support order and all other documents filed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 5601 or Section 5602 are confirmed.
- (b) At the hearing on the motion to vacate the registration of the order, the obligor may present only matters that would be available to the obligor as defenses in an action to enforce a support judgment. If the obligor shows, and the court finds, that an appeal from the order is pending or that a stay of execution has been granted, the court shall stay enforcement of the order until the appeal is concluded, the time for appeal has expired, or the order is vacated, upon satisfactory proof that the obligor has furnished security for payment of the support ordered. If the obligor shows, and the court finds, any ground upon which enforcement of a California support order may be stayed, the court shall stay enforcement of the order for an appropriate period if the obligor furnishes security for payment of support.

SEC. 72. Section 7558 of the Family Code is amended to read:

- 7558. (a) This section applies only to cases where support enforcement services are being provided by the local child support agency pursuant to Section 17400.
- (b) In any civil action or proceeding in which paternity is a relevant fact, and in which the issue of paternity is contested, the local child support agency may issue an administrative order requiring the mother, child, and the alleged father to submit to genetic testing if any of the following conditions exist:
- (1) The person alleging paternity has signed a statement under penalty of perjury that sets forth facts that establish a reasonable

— **47** — Ch. 808

possibility of the requisite sexual conduct between the mother and the alleged father.

- (2) The person denying paternity has signed a statement under penalty of perjury that sets forth facts that establish a reasonable possibility of the nonexistence of the requisite sexual contact between the parties.
- (3) The alleged father has filed an answer in the action or proceeding in which paternity is a relevant fact and has requested that genetic tests be performed.
- (4) The mother and the alleged father agree in writing to submit to genetic tests.
- (c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), the local child support agency may not order an individual to submit to genetic tests if the individual has been found to have good cause for failure to cooperate in the determination of paternity pursuant to Section 11477 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
- (d) The local child support agency shall pay the costs of any genetic tests that are ordered under subdivision (b), subject to the county obtaining a court order for reimbursement from the alleged father if paternity is established under Section 7553.
- (e) Nothing in this section prohibits any person who has been ordered by the local child support agency to submit to genetic tests pursuant to this section from filing a notice of motion with the court in the action or proceeding in which paternity is a relevant fact seeking relief from the local child support agency's order to submit to genetic tests. In that event, the court shall resolve the issue of whether genetic tests should be ordered as provided in Section 7551. If any person refuses to submit to the tests after receipt of the administrative order pursuant to this section and fails to seek relief from the court from the administrative order either prior to the scheduled tests or within 10 days after the tests are scheduled, the court may resolve the question of paternity against that person or enforce the administrative order if the rights of others or the interest of justice so require. Except as provided in subdivision (c), a person's refusal to submit to tests ordered by the local child support agency is admissible in evidence in any proceeding to determine paternity if a notice of motion is not filed within the timeframes specified in this
- (f) If the original test result creates a rebuttable presumption of paternity under Section 7555 and the result is contested, the local child support agency shall order an additional test only upon request and advance payment of the contestant.
  - SEC. 73. Section 7573 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 7573. Except as provided in Sections 7575, 7576, and 7577, a completed voluntary declaration of paternity, as described in Section 7574, that has been filed with the Department of Child Support Services shall establish the paternity of a child and shall have the same

Ch. 808 — **48** —

force and effect as a judgment for paternity issued by a court of competent jurisdiction. The voluntary declaration of paternity shall be recognized as a basis for the establishment of an order for child custody, visitation, or child support.

SEC. 74. Section 7574 of the Family Code is amended to read:

- 7574. (a) The voluntary declaration of paternity shall be executed on a form developed by the Department of Child Support Services in consultation with the State Department of Health Services, the California Family Support Council, and child support advocacy groups.
- (b) The form described in subdivision (a) shall contain, at a minimum, the following:
  - (1) The name and the signature of the mother.
  - (2) The name and the signature of the father.
  - (3) The name of the child.
  - (4) The date of birth of the child.
- (5) A statement by the mother that she has read and understands the written materials described in Section 7572, that the man who has signed the voluntary declaration of paternity is the only possible father, and that she consents to the establishment of paternity by signing the voluntary declaration of paternity.
- (6) A statement by the father that he has read and understands the written materials described in Section 7572, that he understands that by signing the voluntary declaration of paternity he is waiving his rights as described in the written materials, that he is the biological father of the child, and that he consents to the establishment of paternity by signing the voluntary declaration of paternity.
- (7) The name and the signature of the person who witnesses the signing of the declaration by the mother and the father.

SEC. 75. Section 7575 of the Family Code is amended to read:

7575. (a) Either parent may rescind the voluntary declaration of paternity by filing a rescission form with the Department of Child Support Services within 60 days of the date of execution of the declaration by the attesting father or attesting mother, whichever signature is later, unless a court order for custody, visitation, or child support has been entered in an action in which the signatory seeking to rescind was a party. The Department of Child Support Services shall develop a form to be used by parents to rescind the declaration of paternity and instruction on how to complete and file the rescission with the Department of Child Support Services. The form shall include a declaration under penalty of perjury completed by the person filing the rescission form that certifies that a copy of the rescission form was sent by any form of mail requiring a return receipt to the other person who signed the voluntary declaration of paternity. A copy of the return receipt shall be attached to the rescission form when filed with the Department of Child Support Services. The form and instructions shall be written in simple, easy

**49** — Ch. 808

to understand language and shall be made available at the local family support office and the office of local registrar of births and deaths. The department shall, upon written request, provide to a court or commissioner a copy of any rescission form filed with the department that is relevant to proceedings before the court or commissioner.

- (b) (1) Notwithstanding Section 7573, if the court finds that the conclusions of all of the experts based upon the results of the genetic tests performed pursuant to Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 7550) are that the man who signed the voluntary declaration is not the father of the child, the court may set aside the voluntary declaration of paternity.
- (2) (A) The notice of motion for genetic tests under this section may be filed not later than two years from the date of the child's birth by a local child support agency, the mother, the man who signed the voluntary declaration as the child's father, or in an action to determine the existence or nonexistence of the father and child relationship pursuant to Section 7630 or in any action to establish an order for child custody, visitation, or child support based upon the voluntary declaration of paternity.
- (B) The local child support agency's authority under this subdivision is limited to those circumstances where there is a conflict between a voluntary acknowledgement of paternity and a judgment of paternity or a conflict between two or more voluntary acknowledgments of paternity.
- (3) The notice of motion for genetic tests pursuant to this section shall be supported by a declaration under oath submitted by the moving party stating the factual basis for putting the issue of paternity before the court.
- (c) (1) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prejudice or bar the rights of either parent to file an action or motion to set aside the voluntary declaration of paternity on any of the grounds described in, and within the time limits specified in, Section 473 of the Code of Civil Procedure. If the action or motion to set aside a judgment is required to be filed within a specified time period under Section 473 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the period within which the action or motion to set aside the voluntary declaration of paternity must be filed shall commence on the date that the court makes a finding of paternity based upon the voluntary declaration of paternity in an action for custody, visitation, or child support.
- (2) The parent or local child support agency seeking to set aside the voluntary declaration of paternity shall have the burden of proof.
- (3) Any order for custody, visitation, or child support shall remain in effect until the court determines that the voluntary declaration of paternity should be set aside, subject to the court's power to modify the orders as otherwise provided by law.

Ch. 808 — **50** —

- (4) Nothing in this section is intended to restrict a court from acting as a court of equity.
- (5) If the voluntary declaration of paternity is set aside pursuant to paragraph (1), the court shall order that the mother, child, and alleged father submit to genetic tests pursuant to Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 7550). If the court finds that the conclusions of all the experts, as disclosed by the evidence based upon the genetic tests, are that the person who executed the voluntary declaration of paternity is not the father of the child, the question of paternity shall be resolved accordingly. If the person who executed the declaration as the father of the child is not excluded as a possible father, the question of paternity shall be resolved as otherwise provided by law. If the person who executed the declaration of paternity is ultimately determined to be the father of the child, any child support that accrued under an order based upon the voluntary declaration of paternity shall remain due and owing.
- (6) The Judicial Council shall develop the forms and procedures necessary to effectuate this subdivision.

SEC. 76. Section 7630 of the Family Code is amended to read:

- 7630. (a) A child, the child's natural mother, or a man presumed to be the child's father under subdivision (a), (b), or (c) of Section 7611, may bring an action as follows:
- (1) At any time for the purpose of declaring the existence of the father and child relationship presumed under subdivision (a), (b), or (c) of Section 7611.
- (2) For the purpose of declaring the nonexistence of the father and child relationship presumed under subdivision (a), (b), or (c) of Section 7611 only if the action is brought within a reasonable time after obtaining knowledge of relevant facts. After the presumption has been rebutted, paternity of the child by another man may be determined in the same action, if he has been made a party.
- (b) Any interested party may bring an action at any time for the purpose of determining the existence or nonexistence of the father and child relationship presumed under subdivision (d) of Section 7611.
- (c) An action to determine the existence of the father and child relationship with respect to a child who has no presumed father under Section 7611 or whose presumed father is deceased may be brought by the child or personal representative of the child, the Department of Child Support Services, the mother or the personal representative or a parent of the mother if the mother has died or is a minor, a man alleged or alleging himself to be the father, or the personal representative or a parent of the alleged father if the alleged father has died or is a minor. An action under this subdivision shall be consolidated with a proceeding pursuant to Section 7662 if a proceeding has been filed under Chapter 5 (commencing with

— **51** — Ch. 808

Section 7660). The parental rights of the alleged natural father shall be determined as set forth in Section 7664.

SEC. 77. Section 7634 of the Family Code is amended to read:

7634. The local child support agency may, in the local child support agency's discretion, bring an action under this chapter in any case in which the local child support agency believes it to be appropriate.

SEC. 78. Section 10008 of the Family Code is amended to read:

10008. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), nothing in this chapter shall be construed to apply to a child for whom services are provided or required to be provided by a local child support agency pursuant to Section 17400.

(b) In cases in which the services of the local child support agency are provided pursuant to Section 17400, either parent may utilize the services of the family law facilitator that are specified in Section 10004. In order for a custodial parent who is receiving the services of the local child support agency pursuant to Section 17400 to utilize the services specified in Section 10005 relating to support, the custodial parent must obtain written authorization from the local child support agency. It is not the intent of the Legislature in enacting this section to limit the duties of local child support agencies with respect to seeking child support payments or to in any way limit or supersede other provisions of this code respecting temporary child support.

SEC. 78.3. Section 17000 of the Family Code is amended to read:

17000. The definitions contained in this section, and definitions applicable to Division 9 (commencing with Section 3500), shall govern the construction of this division, unless the context requires otherwise.

- (a) "Child support debt" means the amount of money owed as child support pursuant to a court order.
- (b) "Child support order" means any court order for the payment of a set or determinable amount of support by a parent or a court order requiring a parent to provide for health insurance coverage. "Child support order" includes any court order for spousal support or for medical support to the extent these obligations are to be enforced by a single state agency for child support under Title IV-D.
- (c) "Court" means any superior court of this state and any court or tribunal of another state that has jurisdiction to determine the liability of persons for the support of another person.
- (d) "Court order" means any judgment, decree, or order of any court of this state that orders the payment of a set or determinable amount of support by a parent. It does not include any order or decree of any proceeding in which a court did not order support.
- (e) "Department" means the Department of Child Support Services.
  - (f) "Dependent child" means any of the following:

Ch. 808 — **52** —

- (1) Any person under 18 years of age who is not emancipated, self-supporting, married, or a member of the armed forces of the United States.
- (2) Any unmarried person who is at least 18 years of age but who has not reached his or her 19th birthday, is not emancipated, and is a student regularly attending high school or a program of vocational or technical training designed to train that person for gainful employment.
- (g) "Director" means the Director of Child Support Services or his or her authorized representative.
- (h) "Local child support agency" means the family support or child support division, unit, or bureau of the district attorney's office and, after transition pursuant to Section 17305, means the new county department of child support services created pursuant to this chapter and with which the department has entered into a cooperative agreement, to secure child and spousal support, medical support, and determine paternity.
- (i) "Parent" means the natural or adoptive father or mother of a dependent child, and includes any person who has an enforceable obligation to support a dependent child.
- (j) "Public assistance" means any amount paid under the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids Act (Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11200) of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code), or any Medi-Cal benefit, for the benefit of any dependent child or the caretaker of a child.
- (k) "Public assistance debt" means any amount paid under the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids Act, contained in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11200) of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, for the benefit of any dependent child or the caretaker of a child for whom the department is authorized to seek recoupment under this division, subject to applicable federal law.
- (*l*) "Title IV-D" or "IV-D" means Part D of Title IV of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 651 et seq.).
  - SEC. 79. Section 17212 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 17212. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to protect individual rights of privacy, and to facilitate and enhance the effectiveness of the child and spousal support enforcement program, by ensuring the confidentiality of support enforcement and child abduction records, and to thereby encourage the full and frank disclosure of information relevant to all of the following:
- (1) The establishment or maintenance of parent and child relationships and support obligations.
- (2) The enforcement of the child support liability of absent parents.
- (3) The enforcement of spousal support liability of the spouse or former spouse to the extent required by the state plan under Section

— **53** — Ch. 808

17604 and Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 4900) of Part 5 of Division 9.

- (4) The location of absent parents.
- (5) The location of parents and children abducted, concealed, or detained by them.
- (b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (c), all applications, papers, documents, and records established or maintained by any public entity pursuant to the administration and implementation of the child and spousal support enforcement program established pursuant to Part D (commencing with Section 651) of Subchapter IV of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code and this division, shall be confidential, and shall not be open to examination or released for disclosure for any purpose not directly connected with the administration of the child and spousal support enforcement program. No public entity shall disclose any file, paper, document, or record, or the information application, contained therein, except as expressly authorized by this section.
- (2) In no case shall information be released or the whereabouts of one party or the child disclosed to another party, or to the attorney of any other party, if a protective order has been issued by a court or administrative agency with respect to the party, a good cause claim under Section 11477.04 of the Welfare and Institutions Code has been approved or is pending, or the public agency responsible for establishing paternity or enforcing support has reason to believe that the release of the information may result in physical or emotional harm to the party or the child. When a local child support agency is prohibited from releasing information pursuant to this subdivision, the information shall be omitted from any pleading or document to be submitted to the court and this subdivision shall be cited in the pleading or other document as the authority for the omission. The information shall be released only upon an order of the court pursuant to paragraph (6) of subdivision (c).
- (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a proof of service filed by the local child support agency shall not disclose the address where service of process was accomplished. Instead, the local child support agency shall keep the address in its own records. The proof of service shall specify that the address is on record at the local child support agency and that the address may be released only upon an order from the court pursuant to paragraph (6) of subdivision (c). The local child support agency shall, upon request by a party served, release to that person the address where service was effected.
- (c) Disclosure of the information described in subdivision (b) is authorized as follows:
- (1) All files, applications, papers, documents, and records as described in subdivision (b) shall be available and may be used by a public entity for all administrative, civil, or criminal investigations, actions, proceedings, or prosecutions conducted in connection with

Ch. 808 — **54** —

the administration of the child and spousal support enforcement program approved under Part D (commencing with Section 651) of Subchapter IV of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code and to the county welfare department responsible for administering a program operated under a state plan pursuant to Subpart 1 or 2 of Part B or Part E of Subchapter IV of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code.

- (2) A document requested by a person who wrote, prepared, or furnished the document may be examined by or disclosed to that person or his or her designee.
- (3) The payment history of an obligor pursuant to a support order may be examined by or released to the court, the obligor, or the person on whose behalf enforcement actions are being taken or that person's designee.
- (4) Income and expense information of either parent may be released to the other parent for the purpose of establishing or modifying a support order.
- (5) Public records subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 6250) of Division 7 of the Government Code) may be released.
- (6) After a noticed motion and a finding by the court, in a case in which establishment or enforcement actions are being taken, that release or disclosure to the obligor or obligee is required by due process of law, the court may order a public entity that possesses an application, paper, document, or record as described in subdivision (b) to make that item available to the obligor or obligee for examination or copying, or to disclose to the obligor or obligee the contents of that item. Article 9 (commencing with Section 1040) of Chapter 4 of Division 3 of the Evidence Code shall not be applicable to proceedings under this part. At any hearing of a motion filed pursuant to this section, the court shall inquire of the local child support agency and the parties appearing at the hearing if there is reason to believe that release of the requested information may result in physical or emotional harm to a party. If the court determines that harm may occur, the court shall issue any protective orders or injunctive orders restricting the use and disclosure of the information as are necessary to protect the individuals.
- (7) To the extent not prohibited by federal law or regulation, information indicating the existence or imminent threat of a crime against a child, or location of a concealed, detained, or abducted child or the location of the concealing, detaining, or abducting person, may be disclosed to any district attorney, any appropriate law enforcement agency, or to any state or county child protective agency, or may be used in any judicial proceedings to prosecute that crime or to protect the child.
- (8) The social security number, most recent address, and the place of employment of the absent parent may be released to an authorized

**— 55** — Ch. 808

person as defined in Section 653(c) of Title 42 of the United States Code, only if the authorized person has filed a request for the information, and only if the information has been provided to the California Parent Locator Service by the federal Parent Locator Service pursuant to Section 653 of Title 42 of the United States Code.

- (d) (1) "Administration and implementation of the child and spousal support enforcement program," as used in this division, means the carrying out of the state and local plans for establishing, modifying, and enforcing child support obligations, enforcing spousal support orders, and determining paternity pursuant to Part D (commencing with Section 651) of Subchapter IV of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code and this article.
- (2) For purposes of this division, "obligor" means any person owing a duty of support.
- (3) As used in this division, "putative parent" shall refer to any person reasonably believed to be the parent of a child for whom the local child support agency is attempting to establish paternity or establish, modify, or enforce support pursuant to Section 17400.
- (e) Any person who willfully, knowingly, and intentionally violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to compel the disclosure of information relating to a deserting parent who is a recipient of aid under a public assistance program for which federal aid is paid to this state, if that information is required to be kept confidential by the federal law or regulations relating to the program.

SEC. 80. Section 17304 of the Family Code is amended to read:

17304. To address the concerns stated by the Legislature in Section 17303, each county shall establish a new county department of child support services. Each department is also referred to in this division as the local child support agency. The local child support agency shall be separate and independent from any other county department and shall be responsible for promptly and effectively establishing, modifying, and enforcing child support obligations, including medical support, enforcing spousal support established by a court of competent jurisdiction, and determining paternity in the case of a child born out of wedlock. The local child support agency shall refer all cases requiring criminal enforcement services to the district attorney and the district attorney shall prosecute those cases, as appropriate. If a district attorney fails to comply with this section, the director shall notify the Attorney General and the Attorney General shall take appropriate action to compliance. The director shall be responsible implementing and administering all aspects of the state plan that direct the functions to be performed by the local child support agencies relating to their Title IV-D operations. In developing the new system, all of the following shall apply:

Ch. 808 — **56** —

- (a) The director shall negotiate and enter into cooperative agreements with county and state agencies to carry out the requirements of the state plan and provide services relating to the establishment of paternity or the establishment, modification, or enforcement of child support obligations as required pursuant to Section 654 of Title 42 of the United States Code. The cooperative agreements shall require that the local child support agencies are reasonably accessible to the citizens of each county and are visible and accountable to the public for their activities. The director, in consultation with the impacted counties, may consolidate the local child support agencies, or any function of the agencies, in more than one county into a single local child support agency, if the director determines that the consolidation will increase the efficiency of the state Title IV-D program and each county has at least one local child support office accessible to the public.
- (b) The director shall have direct oversight and supervision of the Title IV-D operations of the local child support agency, and no other local or state agency shall have any authority over the local child support agency as to any function relating to its Title IV-D operations. The local child support agency shall be responsible for the performance of child support enforcement activities required by law and regulation in a manner prescribed by the department. The administrator of the local child support agency shall be responsible for reporting to and responding to the director on all aspects of the child support program.
- (c) Nothing in this section prohibits the local child support agency, with the prior approval of the director, from entering into cooperative arrangements with other county departments, as necessary to carry out the responsibilities imposed by this section pursuant to plans of cooperation submitted to the department and approved by the director. The local child support agency may not enter into a cooperative agreement or contract with any county department or independently elected official, including the office of the district attorney, to run, supervise, manage, or oversee the Title IV-D functions of the local child support agency. Until September 1, 2004, the local child support agency may enter into a cooperative agreement or contract of restricted scope and duration with a district attorney to utilize individual attorneys as necessary to carry out limited attorney services. Any cooperative agreement or contract for the attorney services shall be subject to approval by the department and contingent upon a written finding by the department that either the relatively small size of the local child support agency program, or other serious programmatic needs, arising as a result of the transition make it most efficient and cost-effective to contract for limited attorney services. The department shall ensure that any cooperative agreement or contract for attorney services provides that all attorneys be supervised by, and report directly to, the local

— **57** — Ch. 808

child support agency, and comply with all state and federal child support laws and regulations. The office of the Legislative Analyst shall review and assess the efficiency and effectiveness of any such cooperative agreement or contract, and shall report its findings to the Legislature by January 1, 2004. Within 60 days of receipt of a plan of cooperation or contract from the local child support agency, the department shall either approve the plan of cooperation or contract or notify the agency that the plan is denied. If an agency is notified that the plan is denied, the agency shall have the opportunity to resubmit a revised plan of cooperation or contract. If the director fails to respond in writing within 60 days of receipt, the plan shall otherwise be deemed approved. Nothing in this section shall be deemed an approval of program costs relative to the cooperative arrangements entered into by the counties with other county departments.

- (d) In order to minimize the disruption of services provided and to capitalize on the expertise of employees, the director shall create a program that builds on existing staff and facilities to the fullest extent possible. All assets of the family support division in the district attorney's office shall become assets of the local child support agency.
- (e) (1) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), all employees and other personnel who serve the office of the district attorney and perform child support collection and enforcement activities shall become the employees and other personnel of the county child support agency at their existing or equivalent classifications, and at their existing salaries and benefits that include, but are not limited to, accrued and unused vacation, sick leave, personal leave, and health and pension plans.
- (B) The IV-D director is entitled to become an employee of the local child support agency or may be selected as the administrator pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (f).
- (2) Permanent employees of the office of the district attorney on the effective date of this chapter shall be deemed qualified, and no other qualifications shall be required for employment or retention in the county child support agency. Probationary employees on the effective date of this chapter shall retain their probationary status and rights, and shall not be deemed to have transferred, so as to require serving a new probationary period.
- (3) Employment seniority of an employee of the office of the district attorney on the effective date of this chapter shall be counted toward seniority in the county child support agency and all time spent in the same, equivalent, or higher classification shall be counted toward classification seniority.
- (4) An employee organization that has been recognized as the representative or exclusive representative of an established appropriate bargaining unit of employees who perform child support collection and enforcement activities shall continue to be recognized

Ch. 808 — **58**—

as the representative or exclusive representative of the same employees of the county.

- (5) An existing memorandum of understanding or agreement between the county or the office of the district attorney and the employee organization shall remain in effect and be fully binding on the parties involved for the term of the agreement.
- (6) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the rights of employees or employee organizations to bargain in good faith on matters of wages, hours, or other terms and conditions of employment, including the negotiation of workplace standards within the scope of bargaining as authorized by state and federal law.
- (7) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a public agency shall, in implementing programs affected by the act of addition or amendment of this chapter to this code, perform program functions exclusively through the use of civil service employees of the public agency.
- (B) Prior to transition from the district attorney to the local child support agency under Section 17305, the district attorney may continue existing contracts and their renewals, as appropriate. After the transition under Section 17305, any contracting out of program functions shall be approved by the director consistent with Section 31000 and following of the Government Code, except as otherwise provided in subdivision (c) with regard to attorney services. The director shall approve or disapprove a proposal to contract out within 60 days. Failure of the director to respond to a request to contract out within 60 days after receipt of the request shall be deemed approval, unless the director submits an extension to respond, which in no event shall be longer than 30 days.
- (f) The administrator of the local child support agency shall be an employee of the county selected by the board of supervisors, or in the case of a city and county, selected by the mayor, pursuant to the qualifications established by the department. The administrator may hire staff, including attorneys, to fulfill the functions required by the agency and in conformity with any staffing requirements adopted by the department, including all those set forth in Section 17306. All staff shall be employees of the county and shall comply with all local, state, and federal child support laws, regulations, and directives.

SEC. 81. Section 17400 of the Family Code is amended to read:

17400. (a) Each county shall maintain a local child support agency, as specified in Section 17304, that shall have the responsibility for promptly and effectively establishing, modifying, and enforcing child support obligations, including medical support, enforcing spousal support orders established by a court of competent jurisdiction, and determining paternity in the case of a child born out of wedlock. The local child support agency shall take appropriate action, including criminal action in cooperation with the district attorneys, to establish, modify, and enforce child support and, when

**— 59** — Ch. 808

appropriate, enforce spousal support orders when the child is receiving public assistance, including Medi-Cal, and, when requested, shall take the same actions on behalf of a child who is not receiving public assistance, including Medi-Cal.

- (b) Notwithstanding Sections 25203 and 26529 of the Government Code, attorneys employed within the local child support agency may direct, control, and prosecute civil actions and proceedings in the name of the county in support of child support activities of the Department of Child Support Services and the local child support agency.
- (c) Actions brought by the local child support agency to establish paternity or child support or to enforce child support obligations shall be completed within the time limits set forth by federal law. The local child support agency's responsibility applies to spousal support only where the spousal support obligation has been reduced to an order of a court of competent jurisdiction. In any action brought for modification or revocation of an order that is being enforced under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 651 et seq.), the effective date of the modification or revocation shall be as prescribed by federal law (42 U.S.C. Sec. 666(a)(9)), or any subsequent date.
- (d) (1) The Judicial Council, in consultation with the department and representatives of the California Family Support Council, the Senate Committee on Judiciary, the Assembly Committee on Judiciary, and a legal services organization providing representation on child support matters, shall develop simplified summons, complaint, and answer forms for any action for support brought pursuant to this section or Section 17404. The Judicial Council may combine the summons and complaint in a single form.
- (2) The simplified complaint form shall provide the defendant with notice of the amount of child support that is sought pursuant to the guidelines set forth in Article 2 (commencing with Section 4050) of Chapter 2 of Part 2 of Division 9 based upon the income or income history of the defendant as known to the local child support agency. If the defendant's income or income history is unknown to the local child support agency, the complaint shall inform the defendant that income shall be presumed in an amount that results in a court order equal to the minimum basic standard of adequate care for Region I provided in Sections 11452 and 11452.018 of the Welfare and Institutions Code unless information concerning the defendant's income is provided to the court. The complaint form shall be accompanied by a proposed judgment. The complaint form shall include a notice to the defendant that the proposed judgment will become effective if he or she fails to file an answer with the court within 30 days of service. Except as provided in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 17402, if the proposed judgment is entered by the court, the support order in the proposed judgment shall be

Ch. 808 — **60** —

effective as of the first day of the month following the filing of the complaint.

- (3) (A) The simplified answer form shall be written in simple English and shall permit a defendant to answer and raise defenses by checking applicable boxes. The answer form shall include instructions for completion of the form and instructions for proper filing of the answer.
- (B) The answer form shall be accompanied by a blank income and expense declaration or simplified financial statement and instructions on how to complete the financial forms. The answer form shall direct the defendant to file the completed income and expense declaration or simplified financial statement with the answer, but shall state that the answer will be accepted by a court without the income and expense declaration or simplified financial statement.
- (C) The clerk of the court shall accept and file answers, income and expense declarations, and simplified financial statements that are completed by hand provided they are legible.
- (4) (A) The simplified complaint form prepared pursuant to this subdivision shall be used by the local child support agency or the Attorney General in all cases brought under this section or Section 17404
- (B) The simplified answer form prepared pursuant to this subdivision shall be served on all defendants with the simplified complaint. Failure to serve the simplified answer form on all defendants shall not invalidate any judgment obtained. However, failure to serve the answer form may be used as evidence in any proceeding under Section 17432 of this code or Section 473 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- (C) The Judicial Council shall add language to the governmental summons, for use by the local child support agency with the governmental complaint to establish parental relationship and child support, informing defendants that a blank answer form should have been received with the summons and additional copies may be obtained from either the local child support agency or the superior court clerk.
- (e) In any action brought or enforcement proceedings instituted by the local child support agency pursuant to this section for payment of child or spousal support, an action to recover an arrearage in support payments may be maintained by the local child support agency at any time within the period otherwise specified for the enforcement of a support judgment, notwithstanding the fact that the child has attained the age of majority.
- (f) The county shall undertake an outreach program to inform the public that the services described in subdivisions (a) to (c), inclusive, are available to persons not receiving public assistance. There shall be prominently displayed in every public area of every office of the agencies established by this section a notice, in clear and simple

**—61** — Ch. 808

language prescribed by the Director of Child Support Services, that the services provided in subdivisions (a) to (c), inclusive, are provided to all individuals, whether or not they are recipients of public assistance.

- (g) (1) In any action to establish a child support order brought by the local child support agency in the performance of duties under this section, the local child support agency may make a motion for an order effective during the pendency of that action, for the support, maintenance, and education of the child or children that are the subject of the action. This order shall be referred to as an order for temporary support. This order shall have the same force and effect as a like or similar order under this code.
- (2) The local child support agency shall file a motion for an order for temporary support within the following time limits:
- (A) If the defendant is the mother, a presumed father under Section 7611, or any father where the child is at least six months old when the defendant files his or her answer, the time limit is 90 days after the defendant files an answer.
- (B) In any other case where the defendant has filed an answer prior to the birth of the child or not more than six months after the birth of the child, then the time limit is nine months after the birth of the child.
- (3) If more than one child is the subject of the action, the limitation on reimbursement shall apply only as to those children whose parental relationship and age would bar recovery were a separate action brought for support of that child or those children.
- (4) If the local child support agency fails to file a motion for an order for temporary support within time limits specified in this section, the local child support agency shall be barred from obtaining a judgment of reimbursement for any support provided for that child during the period between the date the time limit expired and the motion was filed, or, if no motion is filed, when a final judgment is entered.
- (5) Except as provided in Section 17304, nothing in this section prohibits the local child support agency from entering into cooperative arrangements with other county departments as necessary to carry out the responsibilities imposed by this section pursuant to plans of cooperation with the departments approved by the Department of Child Support Services.
- (6) Nothing in this section shall otherwise limit the ability of the local child support agency from securing and enforcing orders for support of a spouse or former spouse as authorized under any other provision of law.
- (h) As used in this article, "enforcing obligations" includes, but is not limited to, (1) the use of all interception and notification systems operated by the department for the purposes of aiding in the enforcement of support obligations, (2) the obtaining by the local

Ch. 808 — **62** —

child support agency of an initial order for child support that may include medical support or that is for medical support only, by civil or criminal process, (3) the initiation of a motion or order to show cause to increase an existing child support order, and the response to a motion or order to show cause brought by an obligor parent to decrease an existing child support order, or the initiation of a motion or order to show cause to obtain an order for medical support, and the response to a motion or order to show cause brought by an obligor parent to decrease or terminate an existing medical support order, without regard to whether the child is receiving public assistance, (4) the response to a notice of motion or order to show cause brought by an obligor parent to decrease an existing spousal support order when the child or children are residing with the obligee parent and the local child support agency is also enforcing a related child support obligation owed to the obligee parent by the same obligor, and (5) the transfer of the accounts receivable management of child support delinquencies to the Franchise Tax Board under Section 17501 in support of the local child support agency.

- (i) As used in this section, "out of wedlock" means that the biological parents of the child were not married to each other at the time of the child's conception.
- (j) (1) The local child support agency is the public agency responsible for administering wage withholding for current support the purposes of Title IV-D of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 651 et seq.).
- (2) Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of the local child support agency granted by other sections of this code or otherwise granted by law, except to the extent that the law is inconsistent with the transfer of the responsibility for accounts receivable management of delinquent child support to the Franchise Tax Board.
- (k) In the exercise of the authority granted under this article, the local child support agency may intervene, pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 387 of the Code of Civil Procedure, by ex parte application, in any action under this code, or other proceeding in which child support is an issue or a reduction in spousal support is sought. By notice of motion, order to show cause, or responsive pleading served upon all parties to the action, the local child support agency may request any relief that is appropriate that the local child support agency is authorized to seek.
- (1) The local child support agency shall comply with all regulations and directives established by the department that set time standards for responding to requests for assistance in locating noncustodial parents, establishing paternity, establishing child support awards, and collecting child support payments.

**—63** — Ch. 808

- (m) As used in this article, medical support activities that the local child support agency is authorized to perform are limited to the following:
- (1) The obtaining and enforcing of court orders for health insurance coverage.
- (2) Any other medical support activity mandated by federal law or regulation.
- (n) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, venue for an action or proceeding under this division shall be determined as follows:
- (A) Venue shall be in the superior court in the county that is currently expending public assistance.
- (B) If public assistance is not currently being expended, venue shall be in the superior court in the county where the child who is entitled to current support resides or is domiciled.
- (C) If current support is no longer payable through, or enforceable by, the local child support agency, venue shall be in the superior court in the county that last provided public assistance for actions to enforce arrearages assigned pursuant to Section 11477 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
- (D) If subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) do not apply, venue shall be in the superior court in the county of residence of the support obligee.
- (E) If the support obligee does not reside in California, and subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D) do not apply, venue shall be in the superior court of the county of residence of the obligor.
- (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if the child becomes a resident of another county after an action under this part has been filed, venue may remain in the county where the action was filed until the action is completed.
- (o) The local child support agency of one county may appear on behalf of the local child support agency of any other county in an action or proceeding under this part.
  - SEC. 82. Section 17400.5 of the Family Code is repealed.
- SEC. 83. Section 17401 of the Family Code, as added by Chapter 653 of the Statutes of 1999, is amended to read:
- 17401. If the parent who is receiving support enforcement services provides to the local child support agency substantial, credible, information regarding the residence or work address of the support obligor, the agency shall initiate an establishment or enforcement action and serve the defendant, if service is required, within 60 days and inform the parent in writing when those actions have been taken. If the address or any other information provided by the support obligee is determined by the local child support agency to be inaccurate and if, after reasonable diligence, the agency is unable to locate and serve the support obligor within that 60-day period, the local child support agency shall inform the support obligee in writing of those facts. The requirements of this section shall

Ch. 808 — **64** —

be in addition to the time standards established by the Department of Child Support Services pursuant to subdivision (k) of Section 17400.

- SEC. 84. Section 17401 of the Family Code, as added by Chapter 803 of the Statutes of 1999, is amended and renumbered to read:
- 17401.5. (a) All of the following shall include notice of, and information about, the child support service hearings available pursuant to Section 17801, provided that there is federal financial participation available as set forth in subdivision (j) of Section 17801:
  - (1) The booklet required by subdivision (a) of Section 17434.
  - (2) Any notice required by subdivision (c) or (h) of Section 17406.
- (b) To the extent not otherwise required by law, the local child support agency shall provide notice of, and information about, the child support services hearings available pursuant to Section 17801 in any regularly issued notices to custodial and noncustodial parents subject to Section 17400, provided that there is federal financial participation available as set forth in subdivision (e) of Section 17801.

Notice of and information about the child support service hearings and the child support complaint resolution process required under Section 17800 shall be easily accessible and shall be provided in a single section of the booklet.

SEC. 84.3. Section 17402 of the Family Code is amended to read:

- 17402. (a) In any case of separation or desertion of a parent or parents from a child or children that results in aid under Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11200) of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code being granted to that family, the noncustodial parent or parents shall be obligated to the county for an amount equal to the following:
- (1) The amount specified in an order for the support and maintenance of the family issued by a court of competent jurisdiction; or in the absence of a court order, the amount specified in paragraph (2).
- (2) For all cases filed on or after January 1, 2000, the amount of support that would have been specified in an order for the support and maintenance of the family during the period of separation or desertion, but not to exceed one year prior to the date of the filing of the petition or complaint. However, the amount in excess of the aid paid to the family shall not be retained by the county, but disbursed to the family.
- (3) The obligation shall be reduced by any amount actually paid by the parent directly to the custodian of the child or to the local child support agency of the county in which the child is receiving aid during the period of separation or desertion for the support and maintenance of the family.
- (b) The local child support agency shall take appropriate action pursuant to this section as provided in subdivision (*l*) of Section 17400. The local child support agency may establish liability for child

**— 65** — Ch. 808

support as provided in subdivision (a) when public assistance was provided by another county or by other counties.

(c) The amount of the obligation established under paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) shall be determined by using the appropriate child support guidelines currently in effect. If one parent remains as a custodial parent, the guideline support shall be computed in the normal manner. If neither parent remains as a custodial parent, the support shall be computed by combining the noncustodial parents' incomes and placing the figure obtained in the column for noncustodial parent. A zero shall be placed in the column for the custodial parent and the amount of guideline support resulting shall be proportionately shared between the parents as directed by the court. The parents shall pay the amount of support specified in the support order to the local child support agency.

SEC. 84.5. Section 17404 of the Family Code is amended to read:

17404. (a) Notwithstanding any other statute, in any action brought by the local child support agency for the support of a minor child or children, the action may be prosecuted in the name of the county on behalf of the child, children, or a parent of the child or children. The parent who has requested or is receiving support enforcement services of the local child support agency shall not be a necessary party to the action but may be subpoenaed as a witness. Except as provided in subdivision (e), in an action under this section there shall be no joinder of actions, or coordination of actions, or cross-complaints, and the issues shall be limited strictly to the question of parentage, if applicable, and child support, including an order for medical support. A final determination of parentage may be made in any action under this section as an incident to obtaining an order for support. An action for support or parentage pursuant to this section shall not be delayed or stayed because of the pendency of any other action between the parties.

(b) Judgment in an action brought pursuant to this section, and in an action brought pursuant to Section 17402, if at issue, may be rendered pursuant to a noticed motion, that shall inform the defendant that in order to exercise his or her right to trial, he or she must appear at the hearing on the motion.

If the defendant appears at the hearing on the motion, the court shall inquire of the defendant if he or she desires to subpoena evidence and witnesses, if parentage is at issue and genetic tests have not already been conducted whether he or she desires genetic tests, and if he or she desires a trial. If the defendant's answer is in the affirmative, a continuance shall be granted to allow the defendant to exercise those rights. A continuance shall not postpone the hearing to more than 90 days from the date of service of the motion. If a continuance is granted, the court may make an order for temporary support without prejudice to the right of the court to make an order for temporary support as otherwise allowed by law.

Ch. 808 — **66** —

- (c) In any action to enforce a spousal support order the action may be pled in the name of the county in the same manner as an action to establish a child support obligation. The same restrictions on joinder of actions, coordination of actions, cross-complaints, and delay because of the pendency of any other action as relates to actions to establish a child support obligation shall also apply to actions to enforce a spousal support order.
- (d) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to prevent the parties from bringing an independent action under other provisions of this code and litigating the issues of support, custody, visitation, or protective orders. In that event, any support, custody, visitation, or protective order issued by the court in an action pursuant to this section shall be filed in the action commenced under the other provisions of this code and shall continue in effect until modified by a subsequent order of the court. To the extent that the orders conflict, the court order last issued shall supersede all other orders and be binding upon all parties in that action.
- (e) (1) After a support order, including a temporary support order and an order for medical support only, has been entered in an action brought pursuant to this section, the parent who has requested or is receiving support enforcement services of the local child support agency shall become a party to the action brought pursuant to this section, only in the manner and to the extent provided by this section, and only for the purposes allowed by this section.
- (2) Notice of the parent's status as a party shall be given to the parent by the local child support agency in conjunction with the notice required by subdivision (e) of Section 17406. The complaint shall contain this notice. Service of the complaint on the parent in compliance with Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure, or as otherwise provided by law, shall constitute compliance with this section. In all actions commenced under the procedures and forms in effect on or before December 31, 1996, the parent who has requested or is receiving support enforcement services of the local child support agency shall not become a party to the action until he or she is joined as a party pursuant to an ex parte application or noticed motion for joinder filed by the local child support agency or a noticed motion filed by either parent. The local child support agency shall serve a copy of any order for joinder of a parent obtained by the local child support agency's application on both parents in compliance with Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- (3) Once both parents are parties to an action brought pursuant to this section in cases where Title IV-D services are currently being provided, the local child support agency shall be required, within five days of receipt, to mail the nonmoving party in the action all pleadings relating solely to the support issue in the action that have been served on the local child support agency by the moving party in the action, as provided in subdivision (f) of Section 17406. There

**— 67** — Ch. 808

shall be a rebuttable presumption that service on the local child support agency consistent with the provisions of this paragraph constitutes valid service on the moving party. Where this procedure is used to effectuate service on the nonmoving party, the pleadings shall be served on the local child support agency not less than 30 days prior to the hearing.

- (4) The parent who has requested or is receiving support enforcement services of the local child support agency is a party to an action brought under this section for issues relating to the support, custody, and visitation of a child, and for restraining orders, and for no other purpose. The local child support agency shall not be required to serve or receive service of papers, pleadings, or documents, or participate in, or attend any hearing or proceeding relating to issues of custody or visitation, except as otherwise required by law. Orders concerning custody and visitation may be made in an action pursuant to this subdivision only if orders concerning custody and visitation have not been previously made by a court of competent jurisdiction in this state or another state and the court has jurisdiction and is the proper venue for custody and visitation determinations. All issues regarding custody and visitation shall be heard and resolved in the manner provided by this code. Except as otherwise provided by law, the local child support agency shall control support and parentage litigation brought pursuant to this section, and the manner, method, and procedures used in establishing parentage and in establishing and enforcing support obligations unless and until the parent who requested or is receiving support enforcement services has requested in writing that the local child support agency close his or her case and the case has been closed in accordance with state and federal regulation or policy.
- (f) (1) A parent who has requested or is receiving support enforcement services of the local child support agency may take independent action to modify a support order made pursuant to this section while support enforcement services are being provided by the local child support agency. The parent shall serve the local child support agency with notice of any action filed to modify the support order and provide the local child support agency with a copy of the modified order within 15 calendar days after the date the order is issued.
- (2) A parent who has requested or is receiving support enforcement services of the local child support agency may take independent action to enforce a support order made pursuant to this section while support enforcement services are being provided by the local child support agency with the written consent of the local child support agency. At least 30 days prior to filing an independent enforcement action, the parent shall provide the local child support agency with written notice of the parent's intent to file an enforcement action that includes a description of the type of

Ch. 808 — **68** —

enforcement action the parent intends to file. Within 30 days of receiving the notice, the local child support agency shall either provide written consent for the parent to proceed with the independent enforcement action or notify the parent that the local child support agency objects to the parent filing the proposed independent enforcement action. The local child support agency may object only if the local child support agency is currently using an administrative or judicial method to enforce the support obligation or if the proposed independent enforcement action would interfere with an investigation being conducted by the local child support agency. If the local child support agency does not respond to the parent's written notice within 30 days, the local child support agency shall be deemed to have given consent.

- (3) The court shall order that all payments of support shall be made to the local child support agency in any action filed under this section by the parent who has requested, or is receiving, support enforcement services of the local child support agency unless support enforcement services have been terminated by the local child support agency by case closure as provided by state and federal law. Any order obtained by a parent prior to support enforcement services being terminated in which the local child support agency did not receive proper notice pursuant to this section shall be voidable upon the motion of the local child support agency.
- (g) Any notice from the local child support agency requesting a meeting with the support obligor for any purpose authorized under this section shall contain a statement advising the support obligor of his or her right to have an attorney present at the meeting.
- (h) For the purpose of this section, "a parent who is receiving support enforcement services" includes a parent who has assigned his or her rights to support pursuant to Section 11477 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
- (i) The Judicial Council shall develop forms to implement this section.

SEC. 84.7. Section 17406 of the Family Code is amended to read:

17406. (a) In all actions involving paternity or support, including, but not limited to, other proceedings under this code, and under Division 9 (commencing with Section 10000) of the Welfare and Institutions Code, the local child support agency and the Attorney General represent the public interest in establishing, modifying, and enforcing support obligations. No attorney-client relationship shall be deemed to have been created between the local child support agency or Attorney General and any person by virtue of the action of the local child support agency or the Attorney General in carrying out these statutory duties.

- (b) Subdivision (a) is declaratory of existing law.
- (c) In all requests for services of the local child support agency or Attorney General pursuant to Section 17400 relating to actions

**— 69** — Ch. 808

involving paternity or support, not later than the same day an individual makes a request for these services in person, and not later than five working days after either (1) a case is referred for services from the county welfare department, (2) receipt of a request by mail for an application for services, or (3) an individual makes a request for services by telephone, the local child support agency or Attorney General shall give notice to the individual requesting services or on whose behalf services have been requested that the local child support agency or Attorney General does not represent the individual or the children who are the subject of the case, that no attorney-client relationship exists between the local child support agency or Attorney General and those persons, and that no such representation or relationship shall arise if the local child support agency or Attorney General provides the services requested. Notice shall be in bold print and in plain English and shall be translated into the language understandable by the recipient when reasonable. The notice shall include the advice that the absence of an attorney-client relationship means that communications from the recipient are not privileged and that the local child support agency or Attorney General may provide support enforcement services to the other parent in the future.

- (d) The local child support agency or Attorney General shall give the notice required pursuant to subdivision (c) to all recipients of services under Section 17400 who have not otherwise been provided that notice, not later than the date of the next annual notice required under Section 11476.2 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. This notice shall include notification to the recipient of services under Section 17400 that the recipient may inspect the clerk's file at the county clerk's office, and that, upon request, the local child support agency, or, if appropriate, the Attorney General, will furnish a copy of the most recent order entered in the case.
- (e) The local child support agency or, if appropriate, the Attorney General shall serve a copy of the complaint for paternity or support, or both, on recipients of support services under Section 17400, as specified in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of Section 17404. A notice shall accompany the complaint that informs the recipient that the local child support agency or Attorney General may enter into a stipulated order resolving the complaint, and that the recipient shall assist the prosecuting attorney, by sending all information on the noncustodial parent's earnings and assets to the prosecuting attorney.
- (f) (1) (A) The local child support agency or Attorney General shall provide written notice to recipients of services under Section 17400 of the initial date and time, and purpose of every hearing in a civil action for paternity or support.
- (B) Once the parent who has requested or is receiving support enforcement services becomes a party to the action pursuant to

Ch. 808 — **70** —

subdivision (e) of Section 17404, in lieu of the above, the local child support agency or Attorney General shall serve on a parent all pleadings relating to support that have been served on the local child support agency by the other parent. The pleading shall be accompanied by a notice.

(C) The notice provided subject to subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall include the following language:

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

It may be important that you attend the hearing. The local child support agency does not represent you or your children. You may have information about the other parent, such as information about his or her income or assets that will not be presented to the court unless you attend the hearing. You have the right to attend the hearing and to be heard in court and tell the court what you think the court should do with the child support order. This hearing could change your rights or your children's rights to support.

- (2) The notice shall state the purpose of the hearing or be attached to the motion or other pleading which caused the hearing to be scheduled.
- (3) The notice shall be provided separate from all other material and shall be in at least 14-point type. The failure of the local child support agency or Attorney General to provide the notice required pursuant to subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) shall not affect the validity of any order.
- (4) (A) The notice required pursuant to subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) shall be provided not later than seven calendar days prior to the hearing, or, if the local child support agency or Attorney General receives notice of the hearing less than seven days prior to the hearing, within two days of the receipt by the local child support agency or Attorney General of the notice of the hearing.
- (B) Service of the notice and the pleadings required pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) shall be completed not later than five days after receipt of the pleadings served on the local child support agency by the parent.
- (5) The local child support agency or Attorney General shall, in order to implement this subdivision, make reasonable efforts to ensure that the local child support agency or Attorney General has current addresses for all parties to the child support action.
- (g) The local child support agency or Attorney General shall give notice to recipients of services under Section 17400 of every order obtained by the local child support agency or Attorney General that establishes or modifies the support obligation for the recipient or the children who are the subject of the order, by sending a copy of the

— **71** — Ch. 808

order to the recipient. The notice shall be made within the time specified by federal law after the order has been filed. The local child support agency or Attorney General shall also give notice to these recipients of every order obtained in any other jurisdiction, that establishes or modifies the support obligation for the recipient or the children who are the subject of the order, and which is received by the local child support agency or Attorney General, by sending a copy of the order to the recipient within the timeframe specified by federal law after the local child support agency or Attorney General has received a copy of the order. In any action enforced under Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 4900) of Part 5 of Division 9, the notice shall be made in compliance with the requirements of that chapter. The failure of the local child support agency or Attorney General to comply with this subdivision shall not affect the validity of any order.

- (h) The local child support agency or Attorney General shall give notice to the noncustodial parent against whom a civil action is filed that the local child support agency or Attorney General is not the attorney representing any individual, including, but not limited to, the custodial parent, the child, or the noncustodial parent.
- (i) Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude any person who is receiving services under Section 17400 from filing and prosecuting an independent action to establish, modify, and enforce an order for current support on behalf of himself or herself or a child if that person is not receiving public assistance.
- (j) A person who is receiving services under Section 17400 but who is not currently receiving public assistance on his or her own behalf or on behalf of a child shall be asked to execute, or consent to, any stipulation establishing or modifying a support order in any action in which that person is named as a party, before the stipulation is filed. The local child support agency or Attorney General shall not submit to the court for approval a stipulation to establish or modify a support order in the action without first obtaining the signatures of all parties to the action, their attorneys of record, or persons authorized to act on their behalf. Any stipulation approved by the court in violation of this subdivision shall be void.
- (k) The local child support agency or Attorney General shall not enter into a stipulation that reduces the amount of past due support, including interest and penalties accrued pursuant to an order of current support, on behalf of a person who is receiving support enforcement services under Section 17400 and who is owed support arrearages that exceed unreimbursed public assistance paid to the recipient of the support enforcement services, without first obtaining the consent of the person who is receiving services under Section 17400 on his or her own behalf or on behalf of the child.
- (1) The notices required in this section shall be provided in the following manner:

Ch. 808 — **72** —

- (1) In all cases in which the person receiving services under Section 17400 resides in California, notice shall be provided by mailing the item by first-class mail to the last known address of, or personally delivering the item to, that person.
- (2) In all actions enforced under Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 4900) of Part 5 of Division 9, unless otherwise specified, notice shall be provided by mailing the item by first-class mail to the initiating court.
- (m) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the notices provided for pursuant to subdivisions (c) to (g), inclusive, shall not be required in foster care cases.
  - SEC. 85. Section 17430 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 17430. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in any action filed by the local child support agency pursuant to Section 17400, 17402, or 17404, a judgment shall be entered without hearing, without the presentation of any other evidence or further notice to the defendant, upon the filing of proof of service by the local child support agency evidencing that more than 30 days have passed since the simplified summons and complaint, proposed judgment, blank answer, blank income and expense declaration, and all notices required by this division were served on the defendant.
- (b) If the defendant fails to file an answer with the court within 30 days of having been served as specified in subdivision (c) of Section 17400, or at any time before the default judgment is entered, the proposed judgment filed with the original summons and complaint shall be conformed by the court as the final judgment and a copy provided to the local child support agency, unless the local child support agency has filed a declaration and amended proposed judgment pursuant to subdivision (c).
- (c) If the local child support agency receives additional financial information within 30 days of service of the complaint and proposed judgment on the defendant and the additional information would result in a support order that is different from the amount in the proposed judgment, the local child support agency shall file a declaration setting forth the additional information and an amended proposed judgment. The declaration amended proposed and judgment shall be served on the defendant in compliance with Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure or otherwise as provided by law. The defendant's time to answer or otherwise appear shall be extended to 30 days from the date of service of the declaration and amended proposed judgment.
- (d) Upon entry of the judgment, the clerk of the court shall provide a conformed copy of the judgment to the local child support agency. The local child support agency shall mail by first-class mail, postage prepaid, a notice of entry of judgment by default and a copy of the judgment to the defendant to the address where he or she was

**—73** — Ch. 808

served with the summons and complaint and last known address if different from that address.

SEC. 85.3. Section 17433 of the Family Code is amended to read:

17433. In any action in which a judgment or order for support was entered after the entry of the default of the defendant under Section 17430, the court shall relieve the defendant from that judgment or order if the defendant establishes that he or she was mistakenly identified in the order or in any subsequent documents or proceedings as the person having an obligation to provide support. The defendant shall also be entitled to the remedies specified in subdivisions (d) and (e) of Section 17530 with respect to any actions taken to enforce that judgment or order. This section is only intended to apply where an order has been entered against a person who is not the support obligor named in the judgment or order.

SEC. 86. Section 17434 of the Family Code is amended to read:

- 17434. (a) The department shall publish a booklet describing the proper procedures and processes for the collection and payment of child and spousal support. The booklet shall be written in language understandable to the lay person and shall direct the reader to obtain the assistance of the local child support agency, the family law facilitator, or legal counsel where appropriate. The department may contract on a competitive basis with an organization or individual to write the booklet.
- (b) The department shall have primary responsibility for the design and development of the contents of the booklet. The department shall solicit comment regarding the content of the booklet from the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts. The department shall verify the appropriateness and accuracy of the contents of the booklet with at least one representative of each of the following organizations:
  - (1) A local child support agency.
  - (2) The State Attorney General's office.
  - (3) The California Family Support Council.
- (4) A community organization that advocates for the rights of custodial parents.
- (5) A community organization that advocates for the rights of supporting parents.
- (c) Upon receipt of booklets on support collection, each county welfare department shall provide a copy to each head of household whose application for public assistance under Division 9 (commencing with Section 10000) of the Welfare and Institutions Code has been approved and for whom support rights have been assigned pursuant to Section 11477 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. The department shall provide copies of the booklet to local child support agencies for distribution, and to any person upon request. The department shall also distribute the booklets to all superior courts. Upon receipt of those booklets, each clerk of the

Ch. 808 — **74** —

court shall provide two copies of the booklet to the petitioner or plaintiff in any action involving the support of a minor child. The moving party shall serve a copy of the booklet on the responding party.

- (d) The department shall expand the information provided under its toll-free information hotline in response to inquiries regarding the process and procedures for collection and payment of child and spousal support. This toll-free number shall be advertised as providing information on child and spousal support. The hotline personnel shall not provide legal consultation or advice, but shall provide only referral services.
- (e) The department shall maintain a file of referral sources to provide callers to the telephone hotline with the following information specific to the county in which the caller resides:
- (1) The location and telephone number of the local child support agency, the county welfare office, the family law facilitator, and any other government agency that handles child and spousal support matters.
- (2) The telephone number of the local bar association for referral to attorneys in family law practice.
- (3) The name and telephone number of at least one organization that advocates the payment of child and spousal support or the name and telephone number of at least one organization that advocates the rights of supporting parents, if these organizations exist in the county.

SEC. 86.3. Section 17504 of the Family Code is amended to read:

17504. The first fifty dollars (\$50) of any amount of child support collected in a month in payment of the required support obligation for that month shall be paid to a recipient of aid under this Article 2 (commencing with Section 11250) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, except recipients of foster care payments under Article 5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code shall not be considered income or resources of the recipient family, and shall not be deducted from the amount of aid to which the family would otherwise be eligible. The local child support agency in each county shall ensure that payments are made to recipients as required by this section.

SEC. 87. Section 17505 of the Family Code is amended to read:

17505. (a) All state, county, and local agencies shall cooperate with the local child support agency (1) in the enforcement of any child support obligation or to the extent required under the state plan under Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 4900) of Part 5 of Division 9, Section 270 of the Penal Code, and Section 17604, and (2) the enforcement of spousal support orders and in the location of parents or putative parents. The local child support agency may enter into an agreement with and shall secure from a municipal, county, or state law enforcement agency, pursuant to that

**—75** — Ch. 808

agreement, state summary criminal record information through the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System. This subdivision applies irrespective of whether the children are or are not receiving aid to families with dependent children. All state, county, and local agencies shall cooperate with the district attorney in implementing Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 3130) of Part 2 of Division 8 concerning the location, seizure, and recovery of abducted, concealed, or detained minor children.

- (b) On request, all state, county, and local agencies shall supply the local child support agency of any county in this state or the California Parent Locator Service with all information on hand relative to the location, income, or property of any parents, putative parents, spouses, or former spouses, notwithstanding any other provision of law making the information confidential, and with all information on hand relative to the location and prosecution of any person who has, by means of false statement or representation or by impersonation or other fraudulent device, obtained aid for a child under this chapter.
- (c) The California Child Support Automation System, or its replacement, shall be entitled to the same cooperation and information provided to the California Parent Locator Service, to the extent allowed by law. The California Child Support Automation System, or its replacement, shall be allowed access to criminal offender record information only to the extent that access is allowed by law.
- (d) Information exchanged between the California Parent Locator Service or the California Child Support Automation System, or its replacement, and state, county, or local agencies as specified in Section 666(c)(1)(D) of Title 42 of the United State Code shall be through automated processes to the maximum extent feasible.

SEC. 88. Section 17508 of the Family Code is amended to read:

17508. (a) The Employment Development Department shall, when requested by the Department of Child Support Services local child support agency, or, the Franchise Tax Board for purposes of administering Article 5 (commencing with Section 19271) of Chapter 5 of Part 10.2 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, the federal Parent Locator Service, or the California Parent Locator Service, provide access to information collected pursuant to Division 1 (commencing with Section 100 of the Unemployment Insurance Code to the requesting department or agency for purposes of administering the child support enforcement program, and for purposes of verifying employment of applicants and recipients of aid under this chapter or food stamps under Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 18900) of Part 6 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

(b) (1) To the extent possible, the Employment Development Department shall share information collected under Sections 1088.5

Ch. 808 — **76** —

and 1088.8 of the Unemployment Insurance Code immediately upon receipt. This sharing of information may include electronic means.

(2) This subdivision shall not authorize the Employment Development Department to share confidential information with any individuals not otherwise permitted by law to receive the information or preclude batch runs or comparisons of data.

SEC. 89. Section 17518 of the Family Code is amended to read:

17518. (a) As authorized by subdivision (d) of Section 704.120 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the following actions shall be taken in order to enforce support obligations that are not being met. Whenever a support judgment or order has been rendered by a court of this state against an individual who is entitled to any unemployment compensation benefits or unemployment compensation disability benefits, the local child support agency may file a certification of support judgment or support order with the Department of Child Support Services, verifying under penalty of perjury that there is or has been a judgment or an order for support with sums overdue thereunder. The department shall periodically present and keep current, by deletions and additions, a list of the certified support judgments and orders and shall periodically notify the Employment Development Department of individuals certified as owing support obligations.

- Employment (b) If the Development Department individual who owes support may have a claim for unemployment compensation disability insurance benefits under a by the Employment voluntary plan approved Development with Chapter 6 (commencing with Department in accordance Section 3251) of Part 2 of Division 1 of the Unemployment Insurance the Employment Development Department immediately notify the voluntary plan payer. When the department notifies the Employment Development Department of changes in an support obligations, the Employment Development Department shall promptly notify the voluntary plan payer of these Employment Development Department changes. The maintain and keep current a record of individuals who owe support obligations who may have claims for unemployment compensation or unemployment compensation disability benefits.
- (c) Notwithstanding any other the **Employment** law, Development Department shall withhold the amounts specified compensation from the unemployment benefits unemployment compensation disability benefits of individuals with support obligations. The Employment Development Department shall forward the amounts to the Department of Child Support Services for distribution to the appropriate certifying county.
- (d) Notwithstanding any other law, during the payment of unemployment compensation disability benefits to an individual,

— **77** — Ch. 808

with respect to whom the Employment Development Department has notified a voluntary plan payer that the individual has a support obligation, the voluntary plan payer shall withhold the amounts specified below from the individual's unemployment compensation disability benefits and shall forward the amounts to the appropriate certifying county.

- (e) The amounts withheld in subdivisions (c) and (d) shall be equal to 25 percent of each weekly unemployment compensation benefit payment or periodic unemployment compensation disability benefit payment, rounded down to the nearest whole dollar, which is due the individual identified on the certified list. However, the amount withheld may be reduced to a lower whole dollar amount through a written agreement between the individual and the local child support agency or through an order of the court.
- (f) The department shall ensure that the appropriate certifying county shall resolve any claims for refunds in the amounts overwithheld by the Employment Development Department or voluntary plan payer.
- (g) No later than the time of the first withholding, the individuals who are subject to the withholding shall be notified by the payer of benefits of all of the following:
- (1) That his or her unemployment compensation benefits or unemployment compensation disability benefits have been reduced by a court-ordered support judgment or order pursuant to this section.
- (2) The address and telephone number of the local child support agency that submitted the certificate of support judgment or order.
- (3) That the support order remains in effect even though he or she is unemployed or disabled unless it is modified by court order, and that if the amount withheld is less than the monthly support obligation, an arrearage will accrue.
- (h) The individual may ask the appropriate court for an equitable division of the individual's unemployment compensation or unemployment compensation disability amounts withheld to take into account the needs of all the persons the individual is required to support.
- (i) The Department of Child Support Services and the Employment Development Department shall enter into any agreements necessary to carry out this section.
- (j) For purposes of this section, "support obligations" means the child and related spousal support obligations that are being enforced pursuant to a plan described in Section 454 of the Social Security Act and as that section may hereafter be amended. However, to the extent "related spousal support obligation" may not be collected from unemployment compensation under federal law, those obligations shall not be included in the definition of support obligations under this section.

Ch. 808 — **78** —

SEC. 90. Section 17525 of the Family Code is amended to read:

17525. (a) Whenever a state or local governmental agency issues a notice of support delinquency, the notice shall state the date upon which the amount of the delinquency was calculated, and shall notify the obligor that the amount calculated may, or may not, include accrued interest. This requirement shall not be imposed until the local child support agency has instituted the California Child Support Automation System defined in Section 10081. The notice shall further notify the obligor of his or her right to an administrative determination of arrears by requesting that the local child support agency review the arrears, but that payments on arrears continue to be due and payable unless and until the local child support agency notifies the obligor otherwise. A state agency shall not be required to suspend enforcement of any arrearages as a result of the obligor's request for an administrative determination of arrears, unless the agency receives notification of a suspension pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 17526.

- (b) For purposes of this section, "notice of support delinquency" means a notice issued to a support obligor that includes a specific statement of the amount of delinquent support due and payable.
- (c) This section shall not require a state or local entity to calculate the amount of a support delinquency, except as otherwise required by law.
  - SEC. 91. Section 17531 is added to the Family Code, to read:
- 17531. When a local child support agency closes a child support case containing summary criminal history information, the local child support agency shall delete or purge from the file and destroy any documents or information concerning or arising from offenses for or of which the parent has been arrested, charged, or convicted, other than offenses related to the parent's having failed to provide support for minor children, no later than four years and four months, or any other timeframe that is consistent with federal regulations controlling child support records retention, after the date the local child support agency closes the case.
  - SEC. 92. Section 17540 is added to the Family Code, to read:
- 17540. (a) (1) Commencing July 1, 2000, the department shall pay only those county claims for federal or state reimbursement under this division which are filed with the department within nine months of the end of the calendar quarter in which the costs are paid. A claim filed after that time may only be paid if the claim falls within the exceptions set forth in federal law.
- (2) The department may change the nine-month limitation specified in paragraph (1), as deemed necessary by the department to comply with federal changes which affect time limits for filing a claim

**— 79** — Ch. 808

(b) (1) The department may waive the time limit imposed by subdivision (a) if the department determines there was good cause for a county's failure to file a claim or claims within the time limit.

- (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "good cause" means circumstances which are beyond the county's control, including acts of God and documented action or inaction by the state or federal government.
- (B) "Circumstances beyond the county's control" do not include neglect or failure on the part of the county or any of its offices, officers, or employees.
- (C) A county shall request a waiver of the time limit imposed by this section for good cause in accordance with regulations adopted and promulgated by the department.
- (3) The department's authority to waive the time limit under this subdivision shall be subject to the availability of funds and shall not apply to claims submitted more than 18 months after the end of the calendar quarter in which costs were paid.
  - SEC. 93. Section 17604 of the Family Code is amended to read:
- 17604. (a) (1) If at any time the director considers any public agency, that is required by law, by delegation of the department, or by cooperative agreement to perform functions relating to the state plan for securing child and spousal support and determining paternity, to be failing in a substantial manner to comply with any provision of the state plan, the director shall put that agency on written notice to that effect.
- (2) The state plan concerning spousal support shall apply only to spousal support included in a child support order.
- (3) In this chapter the term spousal support shall include support for a former spouse.
- (b) After receiving notice, the public agency shall have 45 days to make a showing to the director of full compliance or set forth a compliance plan that the director finds to be satisfactory.
- (c) If the director determines that there is a failure on the part of that public agency to comply with the provisions of the state plan, or to set forth a compliance plan that the director finds to be satisfactory, or if the State Personnel Board certifies to the director that the public agency is not in conformity with applicable merit system standards under Part 2.5 (commencing with Section 19800) of Division 5 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and that sanctions are necessary to secure compliance, the director shall withhold part or all of state and federal funds, including incentive funds, from that public agency until the public agency shall make a showing to the director of full compliance.
- (d) After sanctions have been invoked pursuant to subdivision (c), if the director determines that there remains a failure on the part of the public agency to comply with the provisions of the state plan,

Ch. 808 — **80** —

the director may remove that public agency from performing any part or all of the functions relating to the state plan.

- (e) In the event of any other audit or review that results in the reduction or modification of federal funding for the program under Part D (commencing with Section 652) of Subchapter IV of Title 42 of the United States Code, the sanction shall be assessed against those counties specifically cited in the federal findings in the amount cited in those findings.
- (f) The department shall establish a process whereby any county assessed a portion of any sanction may appeal the department's decision.
- (g) Nothing in this section shall be construed as relieving the board of supervisors of the responsibility to provide funds necessary for the continued operation of the state plan as required by law.

SEC. 94. Section 17714 of the Family Code is amended to read:

- 17714. (a) (1) Any funds paid to a county pursuant to this chapter prior to June 30, 1999, which exceed the county's cost of administering the child support program of the local child support agency pursuant to Section 17400 to that date, hereafter referred to as "excess funds," shall be expended by the county only upon that program. All these excess funds shall be deposited by the county into a special fund established by the county for this purpose.
- (2) Performance incentive funds shall include, but not be limited to, incentive funds paid pursuant to Section 17704, and performance incentive funds paid pursuant to Section 14142.93 of the Welfare and Institutions Code and all interest earned on deposits in the special fund. Performance incentive funds shall not include funds paid pursuant to Section 17706. Performance incentive funds shall be expended by the county only upon that program. All performance incentive funds shall be deposited by the county into a special fund established by the county for this purpose.
- (b) All excess funds and performance incentive funds shall be expended by the county on the support enforcement program of the local child support agency within two fiscal years following the fiscal year of receipt of the funds by the county. Except as provided in subdivision (c), any excess funds or performance incentive funds paid pursuant to this chapter since July 1, 1992, that the department determines have not been spent within the required two-year period shall revert to the state General Fund, and shall be distributed by the department only to counties that have complied with this section. The formula for distribution shall be based on the number of CalWORKs cases within each county.
- (c) A county that submits to the department a written plan approved by that county's local child support agency for the expenditure of excess funds or performance incentive funds shall be exempted from the requirements of subdivision (b), if the department determines that the expenditure will be cost-effective,

**—81** — Ch. 808

will maximize federal funds, and the expenditure plan will require more than the time provided for in subdivision (b) to expend the funds. Once the department approves a plan pursuant to this subdivision, funds received by a county and designated for an expenditure in the plan shall not be expended by the county for any other purpose.

- (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to nullify the recovery and reversion to the General Fund of unspent incentive funds as provided in Section 6 of Chapter 479 of the Statutes of 1999.
- SEC. 95. Section 6103.9 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 6103.9. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in this section, the local child support agency and the district attorney shall be exempt from the payment of any fees, including fees for service of process and filing fees, in any action or proceeding brought for the establishment of a child support obligation or the enforcement of a child or spousal support obligation.
- (b) A court or county may be reimbursed for those direct costs related to the establishment of a child support obligation or the enforcement of a child or spousal support obligation which have been agreed to pursuant to a plan of cooperation. Any reimbursement pursuant to a plan of cooperation shall not include any amount which is payable as a filing fee.
- (c) For purposes of this section, a "plan of cooperation" includes an agreement entered into by a court and the Administrative Office of the Courts of the California Judicial Council which provides for reimbursement for the cost of providing clerical and administrative support furnished by the court.
- SEC. 96. Section 7480 of the Government Code is amended to read:
  - 7480. Nothing in this chapter prohibits any of the following:
- (a) The dissemination of any financial information that is not identified with, or identifiable as being derived from, the financial records of a particular customer.
- (b) When any police or sheriff's department or district attorney in this state certifies to a bank, credit union, or savings association in writing that a crime report has been filed that involves the alleged fraudulent use of drafts, checks, or other orders drawn upon any bank, credit union, or savings association in this state, the police or sheriff's department or district attorney may request a bank, credit union, or savings association to furnish, and a bank, credit union, or savings association shall furnish, a statement setting forth the following information with respect to a customer account specified by the police or sheriff's department or district attorney for a period 30 days prior to, and up to 30 days following, the date of occurrence of the alleged illegal act involving the account:
  - (1) The number of items dishonored.

Ch. 808 — **82** —

- (2) The number of items paid that created overdrafts.
- (3) The dollar volume of the dishonored items and items paid which created overdrafts and a statement explaining any credit arrangement between the bank, credit union, or savings association and customer to pay overdrafts.
- (4) The dates and amounts of deposits and debits and the account balance on these dates.
- (5) A copy of the signature card, including the signature and any addresses appearing on a customer's signature card.
- (6) The date the account opened and, if applicable, the date the account closed.
- (7) A bank, credit union, or savings association that provides the requesting party with copies of one or more complete account statements prepared in the regular course of business shall be deemed to be in compliance with paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4).
- (c) (1) The Attorney General, a supervisory the Franchise Tax Board, the State Board of Equalization, Employment Development Department, the Controller inheritance tax referee when administering the Prohibition of Gift and Death Taxes (Part 8 (commencing with Section 13301) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code), a police or sheriff's department or district attorney, a county welfare department when investigating welfare fraud, a county auditor-controller or director of finance when investigating fraud against the county, or Department of Corporations when conducting investigations in connection with the enforcement of laws administered by the Commissioner of Corporations, from requesting of an office or branch of a financial institution, and the office or branch from responding to a request, as to whether a person has an account or accounts at that office or branch and, if so, any identifying numbers of the account or accounts.
- (2) No additional information beyond that specified in this section shall be released to a county welfare department without either the accountholder's written consent or a judicial writ, search warrant, subpoena, or other judicial order.
- (3) A county auditor-controller or director of finance who unlawfully discloses information he or she is authorized to request under this subdivision is guilty of the unlawful disclosure of confidential data, a misdemeanor, which shall be punishable as set forth in Section 7485.
- (d) The examination by, or disclosure to, any supervisory agency of financial records that relate solely to the exercise of its supervisory function. The scope of an agency's supervisory function shall be determined by reference to statutes that grant authority to examine, audit, or require reports of financial records or financial institutions as follows:

**— 83** — Ch. 808

- (1) With respect to the Commissioner of Financial Institutions by reference to Division 1 (commencing with Section 99), Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 4800), Division 2 (commencing with Section 5000), Division 5 (commencing with Section 14000), Division 7 (commencing with Section 18000), Division 15 (commencing with Section 31000), and Division 16 (commencing with Section 33000) of the Financial Code.
- (2) With respect to the Controller by reference to Title 10 (commencing with Section 1300) of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- (3) With respect to the Administrator of Local Agency Security by reference to Article 2 (commencing with Section 53630) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code.
- (e) The disclosure to the Franchise Tax Board of (1) the amount of any security interest that a financial institution has in a specified asset of a customer or (2) financial records in connection with the filing or audit of a tax return or tax information return that are required to be filed by the financial institution pursuant to Part 10 (commencing with Section 17001), Part 11 (commencing with Section 23001), or Part 18 (commencing with Section 38001) of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (f) The disclosure to the State Board of Equalization of any of the following:
- (1) The information required by Sections 6702, 6703, 8954, 8957, 30313, 30315, 32383, 32387, 38502, 38503, 40153, 40155, 41122, 41123.5, 43443, 43444.2, 44144, 45603, 45605, 46404, 46406, 50134, 50136, 55203, 55205, 60404, and 60407 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (2) The financial records in connection with the filing or audit of a tax return required to be filed by the financial institution pursuant to Part 1 (commencing with Section 6001), Part 2 (commencing with Section 7301), Part 3 (commencing with Section 8601), Part 13 (commencing with Section 30001), Part 14 (commencing with Section 32001), and Part 17 (commencing with Section 37001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (3) The amount of any security interest a financial institution has in a specified asset of a customer, if the inquiry is directed to the branch or office where the interest is held.
- (g) The disclosure to the Controller of the information required by Section 7853 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (h) The disclosure to the Employment Development Department of the amount of any security interest a financial institution has in a specified asset of a customer, if the inquiry is directed to the branch or office where the interest is held.
- (i) The disclosure by a construction lender, as defined in Section 3087 of the Civil Code, to the Registrar of Contractors, of information concerning the making of progress payments to a prime contractor

Ch. 808 — **84** —

requested by the registrar in connection with an investigation under Section 7108.5 of the Business and Professions Code.

- (j) Upon receipt of a written request from a local child support agency referring to a support order pursuant to Section 17400 of the Family Code, a financial institution shall disclose the following information concerning the account or the person named in the request, whom the local child support agency shall identify, whenever possible, by social security number:
- (1) If the request states the identifying number of an account at a financial institution, the name of each owner of the account.
- (2) Each account maintained by the person at the branch to which the request is delivered, and, if the branch is able to make a computerized search, each account maintained by the person at any other branch of the financial institution located in this state.
- (3) For each account disclosed pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2), the account number, current balance, street address of the branch where the account is maintained, and, to the extent available through the branch's computerized search, the name and address of any other person listed as an owner.
- (4) Whenever the request prohibits the disclosure, a financial institution shall not disclose either the request or its response, to an owner of the account or to any other person, except the officers and employees of the financial institution who are involved in responding to the request and to attorneys, employees of the local child support agencies, auditors, and regulatory authorities who have a need to know in order to perform their duties, and except as disclosure may be required by legal process.
- (5) No financial institution, or any officer, employee, or agent thereof, shall be liable to any person for (A) disclosing information in response to a request pursuant to this subdivision, (B) failing to notify the owner of an account, or complying with a request under this paragraph not to disclose to the owner, the request or disclosure under this subdivision, or (C) failing to discover any account owned by the person named in the request pursuant to a computerized search of the records of the financial institution.
- (6) The local child support agency may request information pursuant to this subdivision only when the local child support agency has received at least one of the following types of physical evidence:
  - (A) Any of the following, dated within the last three years:
  - (i) Form 599.
  - (ii) Form 1099.
  - (iii) A bank statement.
  - (iv) A check.
  - (v) A bank passbook.
  - (vi) A deposit slip.
  - (vii) A copy of a federal or state income tax return.
  - (viii) A debit or credit advice.

**— 85** — Ch. 808

(ix) Correspondence that identifies the child support obligor by name, the bank, and the account number.

- (x) Correspondence that identifies the child support obligor by name, the bank, and the banking services related to the account of the obligor.
  - (xi) An asset identification report from a federal agency.
- (B) A sworn declaration of the custodial parent during the 12 months immediately preceding the request that the person named in the request has had or may have had an account at an office or branch of the financial institution to which the request is made.
- (7) Information obtained by a local child support agency pursuant to this subdivision shall be used only for purposes that are directly connected within the administration of the duties of the local child support agency pursuant to Section 17400 of the Family Code.
- (k) (1) As provided in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 666 of Title 42 of the United States Code, upon receipt of an administrative subpoena on the current federally approved interstate child support enforcement form, as approved by the federal Office of Management and Budget, a financial institution shall provide the information or documents requested by the administrative subpoena.
- (2) The administrative subpoena shall refer to the current federal Office of Management and Budget control number and be signed by a person who states that he or she is an authorized agent of a state or county agency responsible for implementing the child support enforcement program set forth in Part D (commencing with Section 651) of Subchapter IV of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the United States Code. A financial institution may rely on the statements made in the subpoena and has no duty to inquire into the truth of any statement in the subpoena.
- (3) If the person who signs the administrative subpoena directs a financial institution in writing not to disclose either the subpoena or its response to any owner of an account covered by the subpoena, the financial institution shall not disclose the subpoena or its response to any such owner.
- (4) No financial institution, or any officer, employee, or agent thereof, shall be liable to any person for (A) disclosing information or providing documents in response to a subpoena pursuant to this subdivision, (B) failing to notify any owner of an account covered by the subpoena or complying with a request not to disclose to the owner, the subpoena or disclosure under this subdivision, or (C) failing to discover any account owned by the person named in the subpoena pursuant to a computerized search of the records of the financial institution.
- (1) The dissemination of financial information and records pursuant to an order by a judge upon a written ex parte application by a peace officer showing specific and articulable facts that there are

Ch. 808 — **86** —

reasonable grounds to believe that the records or information sought are relevant and material to an ongoing investigation of a felony violation of Section 186.10 or of any felony subject to the enhancement set forth in Section 186.11. The ex parte application shall specify with particularity the records to be produced, which shall be only those of the individual or individuals who are the subject of the criminal investigation. The ex parte application and any subsequent judicial order shall be open to the public as a judicial record unless ordered sealed by the court, for a period of 60 days. The sealing of these records may be extended for 60-day periods upon a showing to the court that it is necessary for the continuance of the investigation. Sixty-day extensions may continue for up to one year or until termination of the investigation of the individual or individuals, whichever is sooner. The records ordered to be produced shall be returned to the peace officer applicant or his or her designee within a reasonable time period after service of the order upon the financial institution. Nothing in this subdivision shall preclude the financial institution from notifying a customer of the receipt of the order for production of records unless a court orders the financial institution to withhold notification to the customer upon a finding that the notice would impede the investigation.

Where a court has made an order to withhold notification to the customer under this paragraph, the peace officer or law enforcement agency who obtained the financial information shall notify the customer by delivering a copy of the ex parte order to the customer within 10 days of the termination of the investigation.

No financial institution, or any officer, employee, or agent thereof, shall be liable to any person for (1) disclosing information in response to an order pursuant to this subdivision, or (2) complying with an order under this subdivision not to disclose to the customer, the order, or the dissemination of information pursuant to the order.

SEC. 97. Section 11552 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11552. Effective January 1, 1988, an annual salary of eighty-five thousand four hundred two dollars (\$85,402) shall be paid to each of the following:

- (a) Commissioner of Financial Institutions.
- (b) Commissioner of Corporations.
- (c) Insurance Commissioner.
- (d) Director of Transportation.
- (e) Real Estate Commissioner.
- (f) Director of Social Services.
- (g) Director of Water Resources.
- (h) Director of Corrections.
- (i) Director of General Services.
- (j) Director of Motor Vehicles.
- (k) Director of the Youth Authority.

**— 87** — Ch. 808

- (1) Executive Officer of the Franchise Tax Board.
- (m) Director of Employment Development.
- (n) Director of Alcoholic Beverage Control.
- (o) Director of Housing and Community Development.
- (p) Director of Alcohol and Drug Abuse.
- (q) Director of the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development.
  - (r) Director of the Department of Personnel Administration.
  - (s) Chairperson and Member of the Board of Equalization.
  - (t) Secretary of the Trade and Commerce Agency.
  - (u) State Director of Health Services.
  - (v) Director of Mental Health.
  - (w) Director of Developmental Services.
  - (x) State Public Defender.
  - (y) Director of the California State Lottery.
  - (z) Director of Fish and Game.
  - (aa) Director of Parks and Recreation.
  - (ab) Director of Rehabilitation.
  - (ac) Director of Veterans Affairs.
  - (ad) Director of Consumer Affairs.
  - (ae) Director of Forestry and Fire Protection.
- (af) The Inspector General pursuant to Section 6125 of the Penal Code
  - (ag) Director of Child Support Services.

The annual compensation provided by this section shall be increased in any fiscal year in which a general salary increase is provided for state employees. The amount of the increase provided by this section shall be comparable to, but shall not exceed, the percentage of the general salary increases provided for state employees during that fiscal year.

SEC. 97.1. Section 11552 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11552. Effective January 1, 1988, an annual salary of eighty-five thousand four hundred two dollars (\$85,402) shall be paid to each of the following:

- (a) Commissioner of Financial Institutions.
- (b) Commissioner of Corporations.
- (c) Insurance Commissioner.
- (d) Director of Transportation.
- (e) Real Estate Commissioner.
- (f) Director of Social Services.
- (g) Director of Water Resources.
- (h) Director of Corrections.
- (i) Director of General Services.
- (i) Director of Motor Vehicles.
- (k) Director of the Youth Authority.
- (1) Executive Officer of the Franchise Tax Board.

Ch. 808 — **88** —

- (m) Director of Employment Development.
- (n) Director of Alcoholic Beverage Control.
- (o) Director of Housing and Community Development.
- (p) Director of Alcohol and Drug Abuse.
- (q) Director of the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development.
  - (r) Director of the Department of Personnel Administration.
  - (s) Chairperson and Member of the Board of Equalization.
  - (t) Secretary of the Trade and Commerce Agency.
  - (u) State Director of Health Services.
  - (v) Director of Mental Health.
  - (w) Director of Developmental Services.
  - (x) State Public Defender.
  - (y) Director of the California State Lottery.
  - (z) Director of Fish and Game.
  - (aa) Director of Parks and Recreation.
  - (ab) Director of Rehabilitation.
  - (ac) Director of Veterans Affairs.
  - (ad) Director of Consumer Affairs.
  - (ae) Director of Forestry and Fire Protection.
  - (af) Director of Industrial Relations.
- (ag) The Inspector General pursuant to Section 6125 of the Penal Code.
  - (ah) Director of Child Support Services.

The annual compensation provided by this section shall be increased in any fiscal year in which a general salary increase is provided for state employees. The amount of the increase provided by this section shall be comparable to, but shall not exceed, the percentage of the general salary increases provided for state employees during that fiscal year.

SEC. 98. Section 12419.3 of the Government Code is amended to read:

- 12419.3. The Controller shall offset delinquent accounts against personal income tax refunds which have been certified by the Franchise Tax Board, in the following priority:
- (a) The nonpayment of child or family support accounts enforced by a local child support agency.
- (b) The nonpayment of child or family support accounts enforced by someone other than a local child support agency.
- (c) The nonpayment of spousal support accounts enforced by a local child support agency.
- (d) The nonpayment of spousal support accounts enforced by someone other than a local child support agency.
- (e) The benefit overpayment accounts administered by the Employment Development Department if no signed reimbursement agreement exists, or if two consecutive payments on

**— 89** — Ch. 808

a reimbursement agreement are delinquent as of September 30 of the taxable year.

- (f) The other offset accounts in the priority determined by the Controller.
- SEC. 98.1. Section 12419.3 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 12419.3. The Controller shall offset delinquent accounts against personal income tax refunds which have been certified by the Franchise Tax Board, in the following priority:
- (a) The nonpayment of child or family support accounts enforced by a local child support agency.
- (b) The nonpayment of child or family support accounts enforced by someone other than a local child support agency.
- (c) The nonpayment of spousal support accounts enforced by a local child support agency.
- (d) The nonpayment of spousal support accounts enforced by someone other than a local child support agency.
- (e) The benefit overpayment accounts administered by the Employment Development Department if no signed reimbursement agreement exists, or if two consecutive payments on a reimbursement agreement are delinquent at any time.
- (f) The other offset accounts in the priority determined by the Controller.
- SEC. 99. Section 15703 of the Government Code is amended to read:

15703. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Franchise Tax Board shall, upon the request of the local child support agency, provide to that agency the address, in addition to the social security number, of an absent parent against whose personal income tax refund the agency has requested an offset for nonpayment of child support, if that information is required for the enforcement of a child support order.

SEC. 100. Section 26746 of the Government Code is amended to read:

26746. In addition to any other fees required by law, a processing fee of five dollars (\$5) shall be assessed for each disbursement of money collected under a writ of attachment, execution, possession, or sale, but excluding any action by the local child support agency for the establishment or enforcement of a child support obligation. The fee shall be collected from the judgment debtor in addition to, and in the same manner as, the moneys collected under the writ. All proceeds of this fee shall be deposited in a special fund in the county treasury. A separate accounting of funds deposited shall be maintained for each depositor, and funds deposited shall be for the exclusive use of the depositor.

Seventy percent of the moneys in the special fund shall be expended to supplement the county's cost for vehicle fleet

Ch. 808 — **90** —

replacement and equipment for the sheriff and the marshal. Thirty percent of the moneys in the special fund shall be expended to supplement the county's cost of vehicle and equipment maintenance for the sheriff and the marshal, and for the county's expenses in administering the funds.

No fee shall be charged where the only disbursement is the return of the judgment creditor's deposit for costs.

SEC. 100.1. Section 26746 of the Government Code is amended to read:

26746. In addition to any other fees required by law, a processing fee of eight dollars (\$8) shall be assessed for each disbursement of money collected under a writ of attachment, execution, possession, or sale, but excluding any action by the local child support agency for the establishment or enforcement of a child support obligation. The fee shall be collected from the judgment debtor in addition to, and in the same manner as, the moneys collected under the writ. All proceeds of this fee shall be deposited in a special fund in the county treasury. A separate accounting of funds deposited shall be maintained for each depositor, and funds deposited shall be for the exclusive use of the depositor.

Seventy percent of the moneys in the special fund shall be expended to supplement the county's cost for vehicle fleet replacement and equipment for the sheriff and the marshal. Thirty percent of the moneys in the special fund shall be expended to supplement the county's cost of vehicle and equipment maintenance for the sheriff and the marshal, and for the county's expenses in administering the funds.

No fee shall be charged where the only disbursement is the return of the judgment creditor's deposit for costs.

SEC. 101. Section 27757 of the Government Code is amended to read:

27757. (a) Except as otherwise ordered by the juvenile court, a county financial evaluation officer, upon satisfactory proof, may reduce, cancel, or remit the costs and charges listed in Sections 903, 903.1, 903.2, 903.3, and 903.45 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, or established by order of the juvenile court.

(b) The county financial evaluation officer may, following entry of an order by the juvenile court that a minor person be represented by the public defender or private attorney or be placed under the probation supervision of the probation officer or be placed or detained in, or committed to, a county institution or other place, make an investigation to determine the moneys, the property, or interest in property, if any, the minor person has, and whether he or she has a duly appointed and acting guardian to protect his or her property interests. The county financial evaluation officer may also make an investigation to determine whether the minor person has any relative or relatives responsible under the provisions of this

**— 91** — Ch. 808

chapter, and may ascertain the financial condition of that relative or those relatives to determine whether they are financially able to pay such charges.

(c) In any case where a county has expended money for the support and maintenance of any ward, dependent child or other minor person, or has furnished support and maintenance, and the court has not made an order of reimbursement to the county, in whole or in part, as provided by law, or the court has made and subsequently revoked such an order, if the ward, dependent child or other minor person or parent, guardian, or other person liable for the support of the ward, dependent child or other minor person acquires property, money, or estate subsequent to the date the juvenile court assumed jurisdiction over the ward, dependent child or minor person, or subsequent to the date the order of reimbursement was revoked, the county shall have a claim for said reimbursement against the ward, dependent child or other minor person or parent, guardian or other person responsible for such support and maintenance. Such claim shall be enforced by the county financial evaluation officer or the local child support agency, as the case may

SEC. 102. Section 29410 of the Government Code is amended to read:

29410. The board of supervisors of a county may establish a local child support agency's family or child support trust fund pursuant to this article.

SEC. 102.5. Section 29411 of the Government Code is amended to read:

29411. In any county that establishes a local child support agency family or child support trust fund pursuant to this article, the board of supervisors shall make these amounts available annually to the local child support agency as determined to be necessary by the auditor-controller. The auditor-controller shall cause those amounts to be transferred to the local child support agency family or child support trust fund.

SEC. 103. Section 29412 of the Government Code is amended to read:

29412. The local child support agency shall use the trust fund solely for the purpose of advancing reimbursement for moneys erroneously attached or intercepted by a government agency for payment of a delinquent support obligation.

SEC. 104. Section 29413 of the Government Code is amended to read:

29413. Upon the presentation by the local child support agency of a requisition to the auditor, the auditor shall draw a warrant in favor of the local child support agency on the trust fund for such amounts as the local child support agency requires, within seven

Ch. 808 — **92** —

working days of the presentation of the requisition to the auditor. The treasurer shall pay the warrant.

- SEC. 105. Section 29414 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 29414. (a) The local child support agency shall forward attached or intercepted moneys upon which advances were made to the trust fund within three days of receipt from the attaching or intercepting agency.
- (b) The local child support agency shall not designate the application of money returned to the trust fund to a specific case.
- SEC. 106. Section 29415 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 29415. The local child support agency trust fund is in addition to any other appropriations for the local child support agency, and this article shall not be construed to limit or affect any provision of law relative to the expenses of the local child support agency which are incurred and paid as other county claims after allowance by the board of supervisors.
- SEC. 107. Section 29416 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 29416. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the budget of each county shall indicate the amount appropriated for the local child support agency for child and spousal support enforcement. All such moneys shall be available for expenditure for capital and operational expenses.
- SEC. 108. Section 102447 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:
- 102447. Notwithstanding Section 102430, a parent's social security number contained in the confidential medical and social information portion of the child's certificate of live birth shall be accessible to the State Department of Child Support Services and local child support agencies for the purposes of operating the Child Support Enforcement Program, as specified in Title IV-D of the federal Social Security Act.
- SEC. 109. Section 10121.6 of the Insurance Code is amended to read:
- 10121.6. (a) No policy of group disability insurance or self-insured employee welfare benefit plan which provides hospital, medical, or surgical expense benefits for employees, insureds, or policyholders and their dependents shall exclude a dependent child from eligibility or benefits solely because the dependent child does not reside with the employee, insured, or policyholder.
- (b) Each policy of group disability insurance or self-insured employee welfare benefit plan which provides hospital, medical, or surgical expense benefits for employees, insureds, or policyholders and their dependents shall enroll, upon application by the employer or group administrator, a dependent child of the noncustodial parent

**— 93** — Ch. 808

when that parent is the employee, insured, or policyholder at any time either the parent or the person having custody of the child as defined in Section 3751.5 of the Family Code, or the local child support agency makes an application for enrollment to the employer or group administrator when a court order for medical support exists. In the case of children who are eligible for medicaid, the State Department of Health Services may also make that application.

SEC. 110. Section 138.5 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

138.5. The Division of Workers' Compensation shall cooperate in the enforcement of child support obligations. At the request of the Department of Child Support Services, the administrative director shall assist in providing to the State Department of Child Support Services information concerning persons who are receiving permanent disability benefits or who have filed an application for adjudication of a claim which the Department of Child Support Services determines is necessary to carry out its responsibilities pursuant to Section 17510 of the Family Code.

The process of sharing information with regard to applicants for and recipients of permanent disability benefits required by this section shall be known as the Workers' Compensation Notification Project.

SEC. 110.3. Section 830.35 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

- 830.35. The following persons are peace officers whose authority extends to any place in the state for the purpose of performing their primary duty or when making an arrest pursuant to Section 836 as to any public offense with respect to which there is immediate danger to person or property, or of the escape of the perpetrator of that offense, or pursuant to Section 8597 or 8598 of the Government Code. Those peace officers may carry firearms only if authorized and under terms and conditions specified by their employing agency.
- (a) A welfare fraud investigator or inspector, regularly employed and paid in that capacity by a county, if the primary duty of the peace officer is the enforcement of the provisions of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
- (b) A child support investigator or inspector, regularly employed and paid in that capacity by a district attorney's office, if the primary duty of the peace officer is the enforcement of the provisions of the Family Code and Section 270.
- (c) The coroner and deputy coroners, regularly employed and paid in that capacity, of a county, if the primary duty of the peace officer are those duties set forth in Sections 27469 and 27491 to 27491.4, inclusive, of the Government Code.
  - SEC. 111. Section 11105 of the Penal Code is amended to read:
- 11105. (a) (1) The Department of Justice shall maintain state summary criminal history information.
  - (2) As used in this section:

Ch. 808 — **94** —

- (A) "State summary criminal history information" means the master record of information compiled by the Attorney General pertaining to the identification and criminal history of any person, such as name, date of birth, physical description, fingerprints, photographs, date of arrests, arresting agencies and booking numbers, charges, dispositions, and similar data about the person.
- (B) "State summary criminal history information" does not refer to records and data compiled by criminal justice agencies other than the Attorney General, nor does it refer to records of complaints to or investigations conducted by, or records of intelligence information or security procedures of, the office of the Attorney General and the Department of Justice.
- (b) The Attorney General shall furnish state summary criminal history information to any of the following, if needed in the course of their duties, provided that when information is furnished to assist an agency, officer, or official of state or local government, a public utility, or any entity, in fulfilling employment, certification, or licensing duties, Chapter 1321 of the Statutes of 1974 and of Section 432.7 of the Labor Code shall apply:
  - (1) The courts of the state.
- (2) Peace officers of the state as defined in Section 830.1, subdivisions (a) and (e) of Section 830.2, subdivision (a) of Section 830.3, subdivisions (a) and (b) of Section 830.5, and subdivision (a) of Section 830.31.
  - (3) District attorneys of the state.
  - (4) Prosecuting city attorneys of any city within the state.
  - (5) Probation officers of the state.
  - (6) Parole officers of the state.
- (7) A public defender or attorney of record when representing a person in proceedings upon a petition for a certificate of rehabilitation and pardon pursuant to Section 4852.08.
- (8) A public defender or attorney of record when representing a person in a criminal case and if authorized access by statutory or decisional law.
- (9) Any agency, officer, or official of the state if the criminal history information is required to implement a statute or regulation that expressly refers to specific criminal conduct applicable to the subject person of the state summary criminal history information, and contains requirements or exclusions, or both, expressly based upon that specified criminal conduct.
- (10) Any city or county, or city and county, or district, or any officer, or official thereof if access is needed in order to assist that agency, officer, or official in fulfilling employment, certification, or licensing duties, and if the access is specifically authorized by the city council, board of supervisors, or governing board of the city, county, or district if the criminal history information is required to implement a statute, ordinance, or regulation that expressly refers to

**— 95** — Ch. 808

specific criminal conduct applicable to the subject person of the state summary criminal history information, and contains requirements or exclusions, or both, expressly based upon that specified criminal conduct.

- (11) The subject of the state summary criminal history information under procedures established under Article 5 (commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Title 1 of Part 4.
- (12) Any person or entity when access is expressly authorized by statute if the criminal history information is required to implement a statute or regulation that expressly refers to specific criminal conduct applicable to the subject person of the state summary criminal history information, and contains requirements or exclusions, or both, expressly based upon that specified criminal conduct.
- (13) Health officers of a city, county, or city and county, or district, when in the performance of their official duties enforcing Section 120175 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (14) Any managing or supervising correctional officer of a county jail or other county correctional facility.
- (15) Any humane society, or society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, for the specific purpose of complying with Section 14502 of the Corporations Code for the appointment of level 1 humane officers.
- (16) Local child support agencies established by Section 17304 of the Family Code. When a local child support agency closes a support enforcement case containing summary criminal history information, the agency shall delete or purge from the file and destroy any documents or information concerning or arising from offenses for or of which the parent has been arrested, charged, or convicted, other than for offenses related to the parent's having failed to provide support for minor children, consistent with the requirements of Section 17531 of the Family Code.
- (c) The Attorney General may furnish state summary criminal history information upon a showing of a compelling need to any of the following, provided that when information is furnished to assist an agency, officer, or official of state or local government, a public utility, or any entity, in fulfilling employment, certification, or licensing duties, Chapter 1321 of the Statutes of 1974 and of Section 432.7 of the Labor Code shall apply:
- (1) Any public utility as defined in Section 216 of the Public Utilities Code that operates a nuclear energy facility when access is needed in order to assist in employing persons to work at the facility, provided that, if the Attorney General supplies the data, he or she shall furnish a copy of the data to the person to whom the data relates.
- (2) To a peace officer of the state other than those included in subdivision (b).
  - (3) To a peace officer of another country.

Ch. 808 — **96** —

- (4) To public officers (other than peace officers) of the United States, other states, or possessions or territories of the United States, provided that access to records similar to state summary criminal history information is expressly authorized by a statute of the United States, other states, or possessions or territories of the United States if the information is needed for the performance of their official duties.
- (5) To any person when disclosure is requested by a probation, parole, or peace officer with the consent of the subject of the state summary criminal history information and for purposes of furthering the rehabilitation of the subject.
- (6) The courts of the United States, other states, or territories or possessions of the United States.
- (7) Peace officers of the United States, other states, or territories or possessions of the United States.
- (8) To any individual who is the subject of the record requested if needed in conjunction with an application to enter the United States or any foreign nation.
- (9) Any public utility as defined in Section 216 of the Public Utilities Code, if access is needed in order to assist in employing current or prospective employees who in the course of their employment may be seeking entrance to private residences. The information provided shall be limited to the record of convictions and any arrest for which the person is released on bail or on his or her own recognizance pending trial.

If the Attorney General supplies the data pursuant to this paragraph, the Attorney General shall furnish a copy of the data to the current or prospective employee to whom the data relates.

Any information obtained from the state summary criminal history is confidential and the receiving public utility shall not disclose its contents, other than for the purpose for which it was acquired. The state summary criminal history information in the possession of the public utility and all copies made from it shall be destroyed not more than 30 days after employment or promotion or transfer is denied or granted, except for those cases where a current or prospective employee is out on bail or on his or her own recognizance pending trial, in which case the state summary criminal history information and all copies shall be destroyed not more than 30 days after the case is resolved.

A violation of this paragraph is a misdemeanor, and shall give the current or prospective employee who is injured by the violation a cause of action against the public utility to recover damages proximately caused by the violations. Any public utility's request for state summary criminal history information for purposes of employing current or prospective employees who may be seeking entrance to private residences in the course of their employment

**— 97** — Ch. 808

shall be deemed a "compelling need" as required to be shown in this subdivision.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as imposing any duty upon public utilities to request state summary criminal history information on any current or prospective employees.

- (10) To any campus of the California State University or the University of California, or any four-year college or university accredited by a regional accreditation organization approved by the United States Department of Education, if needed in conjunction with an application for admission by a convicted felon to any special education program for convicted felons, including, but not limited to, university alternatives and halfway houses. Only conviction information shall be furnished. The college or university may require the convicted felon to be fingerprinted, and any inquiry to the department under this section shall include the convicted felon's fingerprints and any other information specified by the department.
- (d) Whenever an authorized request for state summary criminal history information pertains to a person whose fingerprints are on file with the Department of Justice and the department has no criminal history of that person, and the information is to be used for employment, licensing, or certification purposes, the fingerprint card accompanying the request for information, if any, may be stamped "no criminal record" and returned to the person or entity making the request.
- (e) Whenever state summary criminal history information is furnished as the result of an application and is to be used for employment, licensing, or certification purposes, the Department of Justice may charge the person or entity making the request a fee that it determines to be sufficient to reimburse the department for the cost of furnishing the information. In addition, the Department of Justice may add a surcharge to the fee to fund maintenance and improvements to the systems from which the information is obtained. Notwithstanding any other law, any person or entity required to pay a fee to the department for information received under this section may charge the applicant a fee sufficient to reimburse the person or entity for this expense. All moneys received by the department pursuant to this section, Sections 11105.3 and 12054 of the Penal Code, and Section 13588 of the Education Code shall be deposited in a special account in the General Fund to be available for expenditure by the department to offset costs incurred pursuant to those sections and for maintenance and improvements to the systems from which the information is obtained upon appropriation by the Legislature.
- (f) Whenever there is a conflict, the processing of criminal fingerprints and fingerprints of applicants for security guard or alarm agent registrations or firearms qualification permits submitted

Ch. 808 — **98** —

pursuant to Section 7514 of the Business and Professions Code shall take priority over the processing of applicant fingerprints.

- (g) It is not a violation of this section to disseminate statistical or research information obtained from a record, provided that the identity of the subject of the record is not disclosed.
- (h) It is not a violation of this section to include information obtained from a record in (1) a transcript or record of a judicial or administrative proceeding or (2) any other public record if the inclusion of the information in the public record is authorized by a court, statute, or decisional law.
- (i) Notwithstanding any other law, the Department of Justice or any state or local law enforcement agency may require the submission of fingerprints for the purpose of conducting summary criminal history information checks that are authorized by law.
- (j) The state summary criminal history information shall include any finding of mental incompetence pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 1367) of Title 10 of Part 2 arising out of a complaint charging a felony offense specified in Section 290.
  - SEC. 111.1. Section 11105 of the Penal Code is amended to read:
- 11105. (a) (1) The Department of Justice shall maintain state summary criminal history information.
  - (2) As used in this section:
- (A) "State summary criminal history information" means the master record of information compiled by the Attorney General pertaining to the identification and criminal history of any person, such as name, date of birth, physical description, fingerprints, photographs, date of arrests, arresting agencies and booking numbers, charges, dispositions, and similar data about the person.
- (B) "State summary criminal history information" does not refer to records and data compiled by criminal justice agencies other than the Attorney General, nor does it refer to records of complaints to or investigations conducted by, or records of intelligence information or security procedures of, the office of the Attorney General and the Department of Justice.
- (b) The Attorney General shall furnish state summary criminal history information to any of the following, if needed in the course of their duties, provided that when information is furnished to assist an agency, officer, or official of state or local government, a public utility, or any entity, in fulfilling employment, certification, or licensing duties, Chapter 1321 of the Statutes of 1974 and of Section 432.7 of the Labor Code shall apply:
  - (1) The courts of the state.
- (2) Peace officers of the state as defined in Section 830.1, subdivisions (a) and (e) of Section 830.2, subdivision (a) of Section 830.3, subdivisions (a) and (b) of Section 830.5, and subdivision (a) of Section 830.31.
  - (3) District attorneys of the state.

**— 99** — Ch. 808

- (4) Prosecuting city attorneys of any city within the state.
- (5) Probation officers of the state.
- (6) Parole officers of the state.
- (7) A public defender or attorney of record when representing a person in proceedings upon a petition for a certificate of rehabilitation and pardon pursuant to Section 4852.08.
- (8) A public defender or attorney of record when representing a person in a criminal case and if authorized access by statutory or decisional law.
- (9) Any agency, officer, or official of the state if the criminal history information is required to implement a statute or regulation that expressly refers to specific criminal conduct applicable to the subject person of the state summary criminal history information, and contains requirements or exclusions, or both, expressly based upon that specified criminal conduct.
- (10) Any city or county, or city and county, or district, or any officer, or official thereof if access is needed in order to assist that agency, officer, or official in fulfilling employment, certification, or licensing duties, and if the access is specifically authorized by the city council, board of supervisors, or governing board of the city, county, or district if the criminal history information is required to implement a statute, ordinance, or regulation that expressly refers to specific criminal conduct applicable to the subject person of the state summary criminal history information, and contains requirements or exclusions, or both, expressly based upon that specified criminal conduct.
- (11) The subject of the state summary criminal history information under procedures established under Article 5 (commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Title 1 of Part 4.
- (12) Any person or entity when access is expressly authorized by statute if the criminal history information is required to implement a statute or regulation that expressly refers to specific criminal conduct applicable to the subject person of the state summary criminal history information, and contains requirements or exclusions, or both, expressly based upon that specified criminal conduct.
- (13) Health officers of a city, county, or city and county, or district, when in the performance of their official duties enforcing Section 120175 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (14) Any managing or supervising correctional officer of a county jail or other county correctional facility.
- (15) Any humane society, or society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, for the specific purpose of complying with Section 14502 of the Corporations Code for the appointment of level 1 humane officers.
- (16) Local child support agencies established by Section 17304 of the Family Code. When a local child support agency closes a support

Ch. 808 — **100** —

enforcement case containing summary criminal history information, the agency shall delete or purge from the file and destroy any documents or information concerning or arising from offenses for or of which the parent has been arrested, charged, or convicted, other than for offenses related to the parent's having failed to provide support for minor children, consistent with the requirements of Section 17531 of the Family Code.

- (17) County child welfare agency personnel who have been delegated the authority of county probation officers to access state summary criminal history information pursuant to Section 272 of the Welfare and Institutions Code for the purposes specified in Section 16504.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. Information from criminal history records provided pursuant to this subdivision shall not be used for any purposes other than those specified in this section and Section 16504.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. When an agency obtains records obtained both on the basis of name checks and fingerprint checks, final placement decisions shall be based only on the records obtained pursuant to the fingerprint check.
- (c) The Attorney General may furnish state summary criminal history information upon a showing of a compelling need to any of the following, provided that when information is furnished to assist an agency, officer, or official of state or local government, a public utility, or any entity, in fulfilling employment, certification, or licensing duties, Chapter 1321 of the Statutes of 1974 and of Section 432.7 of the Labor Code shall apply:
- (1) Any public utility as defined in Section 216 of the Public Utilities Code that operates a nuclear energy facility when access is needed in order to assist in employing persons to work at the facility, provided that, if the Attorney General supplies the data, he or she shall furnish a copy of the data to the person to whom the data relates.
- (2) To a peace officer of the state other than those included in subdivision (b).
  - (3) To a peace officer of another country.
- (4) To public officers (other than peace officers) of the United States, other states, or possessions or territories of the United States, provided that access to records similar to state summary criminal history information is expressly authorized by a statute of the United States, other states, or possessions or territories of the United States if the information is needed for the performance of their official duties.
- (5) To any person when disclosure is requested by a probation, parole, or peace officer with the consent of the subject of the state summary criminal history information and for purposes of furthering the rehabilitation of the subject.
- (6) The courts of the United States, other states, or territories or possessions of the United States.

**— 101 —** Ch. 808

- (7) Peace officers of the United States, other states, or territories or possessions of the United States.
- (8) To any individual who is the subject of the record requested if needed in conjunction with an application to enter the United States or any foreign nation.
- (9) Any public utility as defined in Section 216 of the Public Utilities Code, if access is needed in order to assist in employing current or prospective employees who in the course of their employment may be seeking entrance to private residences. The information provided shall be limited to the record of convictions and any arrest for which the person is released on bail or on his or her own recognizance pending trial.

If the Attorney General supplies the data pursuant to this paragraph, the Attorney General shall furnish a copy of the data to the current or prospective employee to whom the data relates.

Any information obtained from the state summary criminal history is confidential and the receiving public utility shall not disclose its contents, other than for the purpose for which it was acquired. The state summary criminal history information in the possession of the public utility and all copies made from it shall be destroyed not more than 30 days after employment or promotion or transfer is denied or granted, except for those cases where a current or prospective employee is out on bail or on his or her own recognizance pending trial, in which case the state summary criminal history information and all copies shall be destroyed not more than 30 days after the case is resolved.

A violation of this paragraph is a misdemeanor, and shall give the current or prospective employee who is injured by the violation a cause of action against the public utility to recover damages proximately caused by the violations. Any public utility's request for state summary criminal history information for purposes of employing current or prospective employees who may be seeking entrance to private residences in the course of their employment shall be deemed a "compelling need" as required to be shown in this subdivision.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as imposing any duty upon public utilities to request state summary criminal history information on any current or prospective employees.

(10) To any campus of the California State University or the University of California, or any four-year college or university accredited by a regional accreditation organization approved by the United States Department of Education, if needed in conjunction with an application for admission by a convicted felon to any special education program for convicted felons, including, but not limited to, university alternatives and halfway houses. Only conviction information shall be furnished. The college or university may require the convicted felon to be fingerprinted, and any inquiry to the

Ch. 808 — **102** —

department under this section shall include the convicted felon's fingerprints and any other information specified by the department.

- (d) Whenever an authorized request for state summary criminal history information pertains to a person whose fingerprints are on file with the Department of Justice and the department has no criminal history of that person, and the information is to be used for employment, licensing, or certification purposes, the fingerprint card accompanying the request for information, if any, may be stamped "no criminal record" and returned to the person or entity making the request.
- (e) Whenever state summary criminal history information is furnished as the result of an application and is to be used for employment, licensing, or certification purposes, the Department of Justice may charge the person or entity making the request a fee that it determines to be sufficient to reimburse the department for the cost of furnishing the information. In addition, the Department of Justice may add a surcharge to the fee to fund maintenance and improvements to the systems from which the information is obtained. Notwithstanding any other law, any person or entity required to pay a fee to the department for information received under this section may charge the applicant a fee sufficient to reimburse the person or entity for this expense. All moneys received by the department pursuant to this section, Sections 11105.3 and 12054 of the Penal Code, and Section 13588 of the Education Code shall be deposited in a special account in the General Fund to be available for expenditure by the department to offset costs incurred pursuant to those sections and for maintenance and improvements to the systems from which the information is obtained upon appropriation by the Legislature.
- (f) Whenever there is a conflict, the processing of criminal fingerprints and fingerprints of applicants for security guard or alarm agent registrations or firearms qualification permits submitted pursuant to Section 7514 of the Business and Professions Code shall take priority over the processing of applicant fingerprints.
- (g) It is not a violation of this section to disseminate statistical or research information obtained from a record, provided that the identity of the subject of the record is not disclosed.
- (h) It is not a violation of this section to include information obtained from a record in (1) a transcript or record of a judicial or administrative proceeding or (2) any other public record if the inclusion of the information in the public record is authorized by a court, statute, or decisional law.
- (i) Notwithstanding any other law, the Department of Justice or any state or local law enforcement agency may require the submission of fingerprints for the purpose of conducting summary criminal history information checks that are authorized by law.

**— 103** — Ch. 808

- (j) The state summary criminal history information shall include any finding of mental incompetence pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 1367) of Title 10 of Part 2 arising out of a complaint charging a felony offense specified in Section 290.
  - SEC. 111.3. Section 13300 of the Penal Code is amended to read:
  - 13300. (a) As used in this section:
- (1) "Local summary criminal history information" means the master record of information compiled by any local criminal justice agency pursuant to Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 13100) of Title 3 of Part 4 pertaining to the identification and criminal history of any person, such as name, date of birth, physical description, dates of arrests, arresting agencies and booking numbers, charges, dispositions, and similar data about the person.
- (2) "Local summary criminal history information" does not refer to records and data compiled by criminal justice agencies other than that local agency, nor does it refer to records of complaints to or investigations conducted by, or records of intelligence information or security procedures of, the local agency.
  - (3) "Local agency" means a local criminal justice agency.
- (b) A local agency shall furnish local summary criminal history information to any of the following, when needed in the course of their duties, provided that when information is furnished to assist an agency, officer, or official of state or local government, a public utility, or any entity, in fulfilling employment, certification, or licensing duties, Chapter 1321 of the Statutes of 1974 and Section 432.7 of the Labor Code shall apply:
  - (1) The courts of the state.
- (2) Peace officers of the state, as defined in Section 830.1, subdivisions (a) and (d) of Section 830.2, subdivisions (a), (b), and (j) of Section 830.3, and subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) of Section 830.5.
  - (3) District attorneys of the state.
  - (4) Prosecuting city attorneys of any city within the state.
  - (5) Probation officers of the state.
  - (6) Parole officers of the state.
- (7) A public defender or attorney of record when representing a person in proceedings upon a petition for a certificate of rehabilitation and pardon pursuant to Section 4852.08.
- (8) A public defender or attorney of record when representing a person in a criminal case and when authorized access by statutory or decisional law.
- (9) Any agency, officer, or official of the state when the local summary criminal history information is required to implement a statute, regulation, or ordinance that expressly refers to specific criminal conduct applicable to the subject person of the local summary criminal history information, and contains requirements or exclusions, or both, expressly based upon the specified criminal conduct.

Ch. 808 — **104** —

- (10) Any city, county, city and county, or district, or any officer or official thereof, when access is needed in order to assist the agency, officer, or official in fulfilling employment, certification, or licensing duties, and when the access is specifically authorized by the city council, board of supervisors, or governing board of the city, county, or district when the local summary criminal history information is required to implement a statute, regulation, or ordinance that expressly refers to specific criminal conduct applicable to the subject person of the local summary criminal history information, and contains requirements or exclusions, or both, expressly based upon the specified criminal conduct.
- (11) The subject of the local summary criminal history information.
- (12) Any person or entity when access is expressly authorized by statute when the local summary criminal history information is required to implement a statute, regulation, or ordinance that expressly refers to specific criminal conduct applicable to the subject person of the local summary criminal history information, and contains requirements or exclusions, or both, expressly based upon the specified criminal conduct.
- (13) Any managing or supervising correctional officer of a county jail or other county correctional facility.
- (14) Local child support agencies established by Section 17304 of the Family Code. When a local child support agency closes a support enforcement case containing summary criminal history information, the agency shall delete or purge from the file and destroy any documents or information concerning or arising from offenses for or of which the parent has been arrested, charged, or convicted, other than for offenses related to the parents having failed to provide support for the minor children, consistent with Section 17531 of the Family Code.
- (c) The local agency may furnish local summary criminal history information, upon a showing of a compelling need, to any of the following, provided that when information is furnished to assist an agency, officer, or official of state or local government, a public utility, or any entity, in fulfilling employment, certification, or licensing duties, Chapter 1321 of the Statutes of 1974 and Section 432.7 of the Labor Code shall apply:
- (1) Any public utility, as defined in Section 216 of the Public Utilities Code, which operates a nuclear energy facility when access is needed to assist in employing persons to work at the facility, provided that, if the local agency supplies the information, it shall furnish a copy of this information to the person to whom the information relates.
- (2) To a peace officer of the state other than those included in subdivision (b).
  - (3) To a peace officer of another country.

— **105** — Ch. 808

- (4) To public officers, other than peace officers, of the United States, other states, or possessions or territories of the United States, provided that access to records similar to local summary criminal history information is expressly authorized by a statute of the United States, other states, or possessions or territories of the United States when this information is needed for the performance of their official duties.
- (5) To any person when disclosure is requested by a probation, parole, or peace officer with the consent of the subject of the local summary criminal history information and for purposes of furthering the rehabilitation of the subject.
- (6) The courts of the United States, other states, or territories or possessions of the United States.
- (7) Peace officers of the United States, other states, or territories or possessions of the United States.
- (8) To any individual who is the subject of the record requested when needed in conjunction with an application to enter the United States or any foreign nation.
- (9) Any public utility, as defined in Section 216 of the Public Utilities Code, when access is needed to assist in employing persons who will be seeking entrance to private residences in the course of their employment. The information provided shall be limited to the record of convictions and any arrest for which the person is released on bail or on his or her own recognizance pending trial.

If the local agency supplies the information pursuant to this paragraph, it shall furnish a copy of the information to the person to whom the information relates.

Any information obtained from the local summary criminal history is confidential and the receiving public utility shall not disclose its contents, other than for the purpose for which it was acquired. The local summary criminal history information in the possession of the public utility and all copies made from it shall be destroyed 30 days after employment is denied or granted, including any appeal periods, except for those cases where an employee or applicant is out on bail or on his or her own recognizance pending trial, in which case the state summary criminal history information and all copies shall be destroyed 30 days after the case is resolved, including any appeal periods.

A violation of any of the provisions of this paragraph is a misdemeanor, and shall give the employee or applicant who is injured by the violation a cause of action against the public utility to recover damages proximately caused by the violation.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as imposing any duty upon public utilities to request local summary criminal history information on any current or prospective employee.

Ch. 808 — **106** —

Seeking entrance to private residences in the course of employment shall be deemed a "compelling need" as required to be shown in this subdivision.

(10) Any city, county, city and county, or district, or any officer or official thereof, if a written request is made to a local law enforcement agency and the information is needed to assist in the screening of a prospective concessionaire, and any affiliate or associate thereof, as these terms are defined in subdivision (k) of Section 432.7 of the Labor Code, for the purposes of consenting to, or approving of, the prospective concessionaire's application for, or acquisition of, any beneficial interest in a concession, lease, or other property interest.

Any local government's request for local summary criminal history information for purposes of screening a prospective concessionaire and their affiliates or associates before approving or denying an application for, or acquisition of, any beneficial interest in a concession, lease, or other property interest is deemed a "compelling need" as required by this subdivision. However, only local summary criminal history information pertaining to criminal convictions may be obtained pursuant to this paragraph.

Any information obtained from the local summary criminal history is confidential and the receiving local government shall not disclose its contents, other than for the purpose for which it was acquired. The local summary criminal history information in the possession of the local government and all copies made from it shall be destroyed not more than 30 days after the local government's final decision to grant or deny consent to, or approval of, the prospective concessionaire's application for, or acquisition of, a beneficial interest in a concession, lease, or other property interest. Nothing in this section shall be construed as imposing any duty upon a local government, or any officer or official thereof, to request local summary criminal history information on any current or prospective concessionaire or their affiliates or associates.

- (d) Whenever an authorized request for local summary criminal history information pertains to a person whose fingerprints are on file with the local agency and the local agency has no criminal history of that person, and the information is to be used for employment, licensing, or certification purposes, the fingerprint card accompanying the request for information, if any, may be stamped "no criminal record" and returned to the person or entity making the request.
- (e) A local agency taking fingerprints of a person who is an applicant for licensing, employment, or certification may charge a fee not to exceed ten dollars (\$10) to cover the cost of taking the fingerprints and processing the required documents.
- (f) Whenever local summary criminal history information furnished pursuant to this section is to be used for employment, licensing, or certification purposes, the local agency shall charge the

— **107** — Ch. 808

person or entity making the request a fee which it determines to be sufficient to reimburse the local agency for the cost of furnishing the information, provided that no fee shall be charged to any public law enforcement agency for local summary criminal history information furnished to assist it in employing, licensing, or certifying a person who is applying for employment with the agency as a peace officer or criminal investigator. Any state agency required to pay a fee to the local agency for information received under this section may charge the applicant a fee sufficient to reimburse the agency for the expense.

- (g) Whenever there is a conflict, the processing of criminal fingerprints shall take priority over the processing of applicant fingerprints.
- (h) It is not a violation of this article to disseminate statistical or research information obtained from a record, provided that the identity of the subject of the record is not disclosed.
- (i) It is not a violation of this article to include information obtained from a record in (1) a transcript or record of a judicial or administrative proceeding or (2) any other public record when the inclusion of the information in the public record is authorized by a court, statute, or decisional law.
- (j) Notwithstanding any other law, the Department of Justice or any state or local law enforcement agency may require the submission of fingerprints for the purpose of conducting summary criminal history information record checks which are authorized by law.
- (k) Any local criminal justice agency may release, within five years of the arrest, information concerning an arrest or detention of a peace officer or applicant for a position as a peace officer, as defined in Section 830, which did not result in conviction, and for which the person did not complete a postarrest diversion program or a deferred entry of judgment program, to a government agency employer of that peace officer or applicant.
- (*l*) Any local criminal justice agency may release information concerning an arrest of a peace officer or applicant for a position as a peace officer, as defined in Section 830, which did not result in conviction but for which the person completed a postarrest diversion program or a deferred entry of judgment program, or information concerning a referral to and participation in any postarrest diversion program or a deferred entry of judgment program to a government agency employer of that peace officer or applicant.
- (m) Notwithstanding subdivision (k) or (l), a local criminal justice agency shall not release information under the following circumstances:
- (1) Information concerning an arrest for which diversion or a deferred entry of judgment program has been ordered without attempting to determine whether diversion or a deferred entry of judgment program has been successfully completed.

Ch. 808 — **108** —

- (2) Information concerning an arrest or detention followed by a dismissal or release without attempting to determine whether the individual was exonerated.
- (3) Information concerning an arrest without a disposition without attempting to determine whether diversion has been successfully completed or the individual was exonerated.

SEC. 111.5. Section 13300 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

13300. (a) As used in this section:

- (1) "Local summary criminal history information" means the master record of information compiled by any local criminal justice agency pursuant to Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 13100) of Title 3 of Part 4 pertaining to the identification and criminal history of any person, such as name, date of birth, physical description, dates of arrests, arresting agencies and booking numbers, charges, dispositions, and similar data about the person.
- (2) "Local summary criminal history information" does not refer to records and data compiled by criminal justice agencies other than that local agency, nor does it refer to records of complaints to or investigations conducted by, or records of intelligence information or security procedures of, the local agency.
  - (3) "Local agency" means a local criminal justice agency.
- (b) A local agency shall furnish local summary criminal history information to any of the following, when needed in the course of their duties, provided that when information is furnished to assist an agency, officer, or official of state or local government, a public utility, or any entity, in fulfilling employment, certification, or licensing duties, Chapter 1321 of the Statutes of 1974 and Section 432.7 of the Labor Code shall apply:
  - (1) The courts of the state.
- (2) Peace officers of the state, as defined in Section 830.1, subdivisions (a) and (d) of Section 830.2, subdivisions (a), (b), and (j) of Section 830.3, and subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) of Section 830.5.
  - (3) District attorneys of the state.
  - (4) Prosecuting city attorneys of any city within the state.
  - (5) Probation officers of the state.
  - (6) Parole officers of the state.
- (7) A public defender or attorney of record when representing a person in proceedings upon a petition for a certificate of rehabilitation and pardon pursuant to Section 4852.08.
- (8) A public defender or attorney of record when representing a person in a criminal case and when authorized access by statutory or decisional law.
- (9) Any agency, officer, or official of the state when the local summary criminal history information is required to implement a statute, regulation, or ordinance that expressly refers to specific criminal conduct applicable to the subject person of the local summary criminal history information, and contains requirements or

**— 109 —** Ch. 808

exclusions, or both, expressly based upon the specified criminal conduct.

- (10) Any city, county, city and county, or district, or any officer or official thereof, when access is needed in order to assist the agency, officer, or official in fulfilling employment, certification, or licensing duties, and when the access is specifically authorized by the city council, board of supervisors, or governing board of the city, county, or district when the local summary criminal history information is required to implement a statute, regulation, or ordinance that expressly refers to specific criminal conduct applicable to the subject person of the local summary criminal history information, and contains requirements or exclusions, or both, expressly based upon the specified criminal conduct.
- (11) The subject of the local summary criminal history information.
- (12) Any person or entity when access is expressly authorized by statute when the local summary criminal history information is required to implement a statute, regulation, or ordinance that expressly refers to specific criminal conduct applicable to the subject person of the local summary criminal history information, and contains requirements or exclusions, or both, expressly based upon the specified criminal conduct.
- (13) Any managing or supervising correctional officer of a county jail or other county correctional facility.
- (14) Local child support agencies established by Section 17304 of the Family Code. When a local child support agency closes a support enforcement case containing summary criminal history information, the agency shall delete or purge from the file and destroy any documents or information concerning or arising from offenses for or of which the parent has been arrested, charged, or convicted, other than for offenses related to the parents having failed to provide support for the minor children, consistent with Section 17531 of the Family Code.
- (15) County child welfare agency personnel who have been delegated the authority of county probation officers to access state summary criminal information pursuant to Section 272 of the Welfare and Institutions Code for the purposes specified in Section 16504.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
- (c) The local agency may furnish local summary criminal history information, upon a showing of a compelling need, to any of the following, provided that when information is furnished to assist an agency, officer, or official of state or local government, a public utility, or any entity, in fulfilling employment, certification, or licensing duties, Chapter 1321 of the Statutes of 1974 and Section 432.7 of the Labor Code shall apply:
- (1) Any public utility, as defined in Section 216 of the Public Utilities Code, which operates a nuclear energy facility when access

Ch. 808 — **110** —

is needed to assist in employing persons to work at the facility, provided that, if the local agency supplies the information, it shall furnish a copy of this information to the person to whom the information relates.

- (2) To a peace officer of the state other than those included in subdivision (b).
  - (3) To a peace officer of another country.
- (4) To public officers, other than peace officers, of the United States, other states, or possessions or territories of the United States, provided that access to records similar to local summary criminal history information is expressly authorized by a statute of the United States, other states, or possessions or territories of the United States when this information is needed for the performance of their official duties.
- (5) To any person when disclosure is requested by a probation, parole, or peace officer with the consent of the subject of the local summary criminal history information and for purposes of furthering the rehabilitation of the subject.
- (6) The courts of the United States, other states, or territories or possessions of the United States.
- (7) Peace officers of the United States, other states, or territories or possessions of the United States.
- (8) To any individual who is the subject of the record requested when needed in conjunction with an application to enter the United States or any foreign nation.
- (9) Any public utility, as defined in Section 216 of the Public Utilities Code, when access is needed to assist in employing persons who will be seeking entrance to private residences in the course of their employment. The information provided shall be limited to the record of convictions and any arrest for which the person is released on bail or on his or her own recognizance pending trial.

If the local agency supplies the information pursuant to this paragraph, it shall furnish a copy of the information to the person to whom the information relates.

Any information obtained from the local summary criminal history is confidential and the receiving public utility shall not disclose its contents, other than for the purpose for which it was acquired. The local summary criminal history information in the possession of the public utility and all copies made from it shall be destroyed 30 days after employment is denied or granted, including any appeal periods, except for those cases where an employee or applicant is out on bail or on his or her own recognizance pending trial, in which case the state summary criminal history information and all copies shall be destroyed 30 days after the case is resolved, including any appeal periods.

A violation of any of the provisions of this paragraph is a misdemeanor, and shall give the employee or applicant who is

— **111** — Ch. 808

injured by the violation a cause of action against the public utility to recover damages proximately caused by the violation.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as imposing any duty upon public utilities to request local summary criminal history information on any current or prospective employee.

Seeking entrance to private residences in the course of employment shall be deemed a "compelling need" as required to be shown in this subdivision.

(10) Any city, county, city and county, or district, or any officer or official thereof, if a written request is made to a local law enforcement agency and the information is needed to assist in the screening of a prospective concessionaire, and any affiliate or associate thereof, as these terms are defined in subdivision (k) of Section 432.7 of the Labor Code, for the purposes of consenting to, or approving of, the prospective concessionaire's application for, or acquisition of, any beneficial interest in a concession, lease, or other property interest.

Any local government's request for local summary criminal history information for purposes of screening a prospective concessionaire and their affiliates or associates before approving or denying an application for, or acquisition of, any beneficial interest in a concession, lease, or other property interest is deemed a "compelling need" as required by this subdivision. However, only local summary criminal history information pertaining to criminal convictions may be obtained pursuant to this paragraph.

Any information obtained from the local summary criminal history is confidential and the receiving local government shall not disclose its contents, other than for the purpose for which it was acquired. The local summary criminal history information in the possession of the local government and all copies made from it shall be destroyed not more than 30 days after the local government's final decision to grant or deny consent to, or approval of, the prospective concessionaire's application for, or acquisition of, a beneficial interest in a concession, lease, or other property interest. Nothing in this section shall be construed as imposing any duty upon a local government, or any officer or official thereof, to request local summary criminal history information on any current or prospective concessionaire or their affiliates or associates.

- (d) Whenever an authorized request for local summary criminal history information pertains to a person whose fingerprints are on file with the local agency and the local agency has no criminal history of that person, and the information is to be used for employment, licensing, or certification purposes, the fingerprint card accompanying the request for information, if any, may be stamped "no criminal record" and returned to the person or entity making the request.
- (e) A local agency taking fingerprints of a person who is an applicant for licensing, employment, or certification may charge a

Ch. 808 — 112 —

fee not to exceed ten dollars (\$10) to cover the cost of taking the fingerprints and processing the required documents.

- (f) Whenever local summary criminal history information furnished pursuant to this section is to be used for employment, licensing, or certification purposes, the local agency shall charge the person or entity making the request a fee which it determines to be sufficient to reimburse the local agency for the cost of furnishing the information, provided that no fee shall be charged to any public law enforcement agency for local summary criminal history information furnished to assist it in employing, licensing, or certifying a person who is applying for employment with the agency as a peace officer or criminal investigator. Any state agency required to pay a fee to the local agency for information received under this section may charge the applicant a fee sufficient to reimburse the agency for the expense.
- (g) Whenever there is a conflict, the processing of criminal fingerprints shall take priority over the processing of applicant fingerprints.
- (h) It is not a violation of this article to disseminate statistical or research information obtained from a record, provided that the identity of the subject of the record is not disclosed.
- (i) It is not a violation of this article to include information obtained from a record in (1) a transcript or record of a judicial or administrative proceeding or (2) any other public record when the inclusion of the information in the public record is authorized by a court, statute, or decisional law.
- (j) Notwithstanding any other law, the Department of Justice or any state or local law enforcement agency may require the submission of fingerprints for the purpose of conducting summary criminal history information record checks which are authorized by law.
- (k) Any local criminal justice agency may release, within five years of the arrest, information concerning an arrest or detention of a peace officer or applicant for a position as a peace officer, as defined in Section 830, which did not result in conviction, and for which the person did not complete a postarrest diversion program or a deferred entry of judgment program, to a government agency employer of that peace officer or applicant.
- (*l*) Any local criminal justice agency may release information concerning an arrest of a peace officer or applicant for a position as a peace officer, as defined in Section 830, which did not result in conviction but for which the person completed a postarrest diversion program or a deferred entry of judgment program, or information concerning a referral to and participation in any postarrest diversion program or a deferred entry of judgment program to a government agency employer of that peace officer or applicant.

—**113** — Ch. 808

- (m) Notwithstanding subdivision (k) or (l), a local criminal justice agency shall not release information under the following circumstances:
- (1) Information concerning an arrest for which diversion or a deferred entry of judgment program has been ordered without attempting to determine whether diversion or a deferred entry of judgment program has been successfully completed.
- (2) Information concerning an arrest or detention followed by a dismissal or release without attempting to determine whether the individual was exonerated.
- (3) Information concerning an arrest without a disposition without attempting to determine whether diversion has been successfully completed or the individual was exonerated.
- SEC. 112. Section 19271.6 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as amended and renumbered by Chapter 322 of the Statutes of 1998, is amended to read:
- 19271.6. (a) The Franchise Tax Board, through a cooperative agreement with the Department of Child Support Services, and in coordination with financial institutions doing business in this state, shall operate a Financial Institution Match System utilizing automated data exchanges to the maximum extent feasible. The Financial Institution Match System shall be implemented pursuant to guidelines prescribed by the Department of Child Support Services and the Franchise Tax Board. These guidelines shall include a structure by which financial institutions, or their designated data processing agents, shall receive from the Franchise Tax Board the entire list of past-due support obligors, which the institution shall match with its own list of accountholders to identify past-due support obligor accountholders at the institution. To the extent allowed by federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, the guidelines shall include an option by which financial institutions without the technical ability to process the data exchange, or without the ability to employ a third-party data processor to process the data exchange, may forward to the Franchise Tax Board a list of all accountholders and their social security numbers, so that the Franchise Tax Board shall match that list with the entire list of past-due support obligors.
- (b) The Financial Institution Match System shall not be subject to any limitation set forth in Chapter 20 (commencing with Section 7460) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code. However, any use of the information provided pursuant to this section for any purpose other than the enforcement and collection of a child support delinquency, as set forth in Section 19271, shall be a violation of Section 19542.
- (c) Each county shall compile a file of support obligors with judgments and orders that are being enforced by local child support agencies pursuant to Section 17400 of the Family Code, and who are

Ch. 808 — **114** —

past due in the payment of their support obligations. The file shall be compiled, updated, and forwarded to the Franchise Tax Board, in accordance with the guidelines prescribed by the Department of Child Support Services and the Franchise Tax Board.

- (d) To effectuate the Financial Institution Match System, financial institutions subject to this section shall do all of the following:
- (1) Provide to the Franchise Tax Board on a quarterly basis the name, record address and other addresses, social security number or other taxpayer identification number, and other identifying information for each noncustodial parent who maintains an account at the institution and who owes past-due support, as identified by the Franchise Tax Board by name and social security number or other taxpayer identification number.
- (2) In response to a notice or order to withhold issued by the Franchise Tax Board, withhold from any accounts of the obligor the amount of any past-due support stated on the notice or order and transmit the amount to the Franchise Tax Board in accordance with Section 18670 or 18670.5.
- (e) Unless otherwise required by applicable law, a financial institution furnishing a report or providing information to the Franchise Tax Board pursuant to this section shall not disclose to a depositor or an accountholder, or a codepositor or coaccountholder, that the name, address, social security number, or other taxpayer identification number or other identifying information of that person has been received from or furnished to the Franchise Tax Board.
- (f) A financial institution shall incur no obligation or liability to any person arising from any of the following:
- (1) Furnishing information to the Franchise Tax Board as required by this section.
- (2) Failing to disclose to a depositor or accountholder that the name, address, social security number, or other taxpayer identification number or other identifying information of that person was included in the data exchange with the Franchise Tax Board required by this section.
- (3) Withholding or transmitting any assets in response to a notice or order to withhold issued by the Franchise Tax Board as a result of the data exchange. This paragraph shall not preclude any liability that may result if the financial institution does not comply with subdivision (b) of Section 18674.
- (4) Any other action taken in good faith to comply with the requirements of this section.
- (g) Information required to be submitted to the Franchise Tax Board pursuant to this section shall only be used by the Franchise Tax Board to collect past-due support pursuant to Section 19271. If the Franchise Tax Board has issued an earnings withholding order and the condition described in subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of

— **115** — Ch. 808

subdivision (i) exists with respect to the obligor, the Franchise Tax Board shall not use the information it receives under this section to collect the past-due support from that obligor. The Franchise Tax Board shall forward to the counties, in accordance with guidelines prescribed by the Department of Child Support Services and the Franchise Tax Board, information obtained from the financial institutions pursuant to this section. No county shall use this information for directly levying on any account. Each county shall keep the information confidential as provided by Section 17212 of the Family Code.

- (h) For those noncustodial parents owing past-due support for which there is a match under paragraph (1) of subdivision (d), the past-due support at the time of the match shall be a delinquency under this article for the purposes of the Franchise Tax Board taking any collection action pursuant to Section 18670 or 18670.5.
- (i) (1) Each county shall notify the Franchise Tax Board upon the occurrence of the circumstances described in the following subparagraphs with respect to an obligor of past-due support:
  - (A) All of the following apply:
- (i) A court has ordered an obligor to make scheduled payments on a child support arrearages obligation.
  - (ii) The obligor is in compliance with that order.
- (B) An earnings assignment order or a notice of assignment that includes an amount for past-due support has been served on the obligated parent's employer and earnings are being withheld pursuant to the earnings assignment order or a notice of assignment.
- (C) At least 50 percent of the obligated parent's earnings are being withheld for support.
- (D) The obligor is less than 90 days delinquent in the payment of any amount of support. For purposes of this subparagraph, any delinquency existing at the time a case is received by a local child support agency shall not be considered until 90 days have passed.
- (E) A child support delinquency need not be referred to the Franchise Tax Board for collection if a jurisdiction outside this state is enforcing the support order.
- (2) Upon notification, the Franchise Tax Board shall not use the information it receives under this section to collect any past-due support from that obligor.
- (j) Notwithstanding subdivision (i), the Franchise Tax Board may use the information it receives under this section to collect any past-due support at any time if a county requests action be taken.
- (k) The Franchise Tax Board may not use the information it receives under this section to collect any past-due support if a county has applied for and received an exemption from the Department of Child Support Services as provided by subdivision (k) of Section 19271, unless that county specifically requests collection against that obligor. The Franchise Tax Board may not use the information it

Ch. 808 — **116** —

receives under this section to collect any past-due support if a county requests that action not be taken.

- (1) For purposes of this section:
- (1) "Account" means any demand deposit account, share or share draft account, checking or negotiable withdrawal order account, savings account, time deposit account, or a money market mutual fund account, whether or not the account bears interest.
- (2) "Financial institution" has the same meaning as defined in Section 669A(d)(1) of Title 42 of the United States Code.
- (3) "Past-due support" means any child support obligation that is unpaid on the due date for payment.
- (m) Out of any money received from the federal government for the purpose of reimbursing financial institutions for their actual and reasonable costs incurred in complying with this section, the state shall reimburse those institutions. To the extent that money is not provided by the federal government for that purpose, the state shall not reimburse financial institutions for their costs in complying with this section.
- (n) By March 1, 1998, the Franchise Tax Board and the Department of Child Support Services, in consultation with counties and financial institutions, shall jointly propose an implementation plan for inclusion in the annual Budget Act, or in other legislation that would fund this program. The implementation plan shall take into account the program's financial benefits, including the costs of all participating private and public agencies. It is the intent of the Legislature that this program shall result in a net savings to the state and the counties.
- SEC. 112.5. Section 19271.6 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as amended by Chapter 980 of the Statutes of 1999, is amended to read:
- 19271.6. (a) The Franchise Tax Board, through a cooperative agreement with the Department of Child Support Services, and in coordination with financial institutions doing business in this state, shall operate a Financial Institution Match System utilizing automated data exchanges to the maximum extent feasible. The Financial Institution Match System shall be implemented pursuant to guidelines prescribed by the Department of Child Support Services and the Franchise Tax Board. These guidelines shall include a structure by which financial institutions, or their designated data processing agents, shall receive from the Franchise Tax Board the file or files of past-due support obligors compiled in accordance with subdivision (c), that the institution shall match with its own list of accountholders to identify past-due support obligor accountholders at the institution. To the extent allowed by the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, the guidelines shall include an option by which financial institutions without the technical ability to process the data exchange, or without the ability to employ a third-party data processor to process the data

— **117** — Ch. 808

exchange, may forward to the Franchise Tax Board a list of all accountholders and their social security numbers, so that the Franchise Tax Board shall match that list with the file or files of past-due support obligors compiled in accordance with subdivision (c).

- (b) The Financial Institution Match System shall not be subject to any limitation set forth in Chapter 20 (commencing with Section 7460) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code. However, any use of the information provided pursuant to this section for any purpose other than the enforcement and collection of a child support delinquency, as set forth in Section 19271, shall be a violation of Section 19542.
- (c) (1) Each county shall compile a file of support obligors with judgments and orders that are being enforced by local child support agencies pursuant to Section 17400 of the Family Code, and who are past due in the payment of their support obligations. The file shall be compiled, updated, and forwarded to the Franchise Tax Board, in accordance with the guidelines prescribed by the Department of Child Support Services and the Franchise Tax Board.
- (2) The Department of Child Support Services, shall compile a file of obligors with support arrearages from requests made by other states for administrative enforcement in interstate cases, in accordance with federal requirements (42 U.S.C. Sec. 666(a)(14)). This file shall be compiled and forwarded to the Franchise Tax Board in accordance with the guidelines prescribed by the Department of Child Support Services and the Franchise Tax Board. The file shall include, to the extent possible, the obligor's address.
- (d) To effectuate the Financial Institution Match System, financial institutions subject to this section shall do all of the following:
- (1) Provide to the Franchise Tax Board on a quarterly basis the name, record address and other addresses, social security number or other taxpayer identification number, and other identifying information for each noncustodial parent who maintains an account at the institution and who owes past-due support, as identified by the Franchise Tax Board by name and social security number or other taxpayer identification number.
- (2) In response to a notice or order to withhold issued by the Franchise Tax Board, withhold from any accounts of the obligor the amount of any past-due support stated on the notice or order and transmit the amount to the Franchise Tax Board in accordance with Section 18670 or 18670.5.
- (e) Unless otherwise required by applicable law, a financial institution furnishing a report or providing information to the Franchise Tax Board pursuant to this section shall not disclose to a depositor or an accountholder, or a codepositor or coaccountholder, that the name, address, social security number, or other taxpayer

Ch. 808 — **118** —

identification number or other identifying information of that person has been received from or furnished to the Franchise Tax Board.

- (f) A financial institution shall incur no obligation or liability to any person arising from any of the following:
- (1) Furnishing information to the Franchise Tax Board as required by this section.
- (2) Failing to disclose to a depositor or accountholder that the name, address, social security number, or other taxpayer identification number or other identifying information of that person was included in the data exchange with the Franchise Tax Board required by this section.
- (3) Withholding or transmitting any assets in response to a notice or order to withhold issued by the Franchise Tax Board as a result of the data exchange. This paragraph shall not preclude any liability that may result if the financial institution does not comply with subdivision (b) of Section 18674.
- (4) Any other action taken in good faith to comply with the requirements of this section.
- (g) Information required to be submitted to the Franchise Tax Board pursuant to this section shall only be used by the Franchise Tax Board to collect past-due support pursuant to Section 19271. If the Franchise Tax Board has issued an earnings withholding order and the condition described in subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (i) exists with respect to the obligor, the Franchise Tax Board shall not use the information it receives under this section to collect the past-due support from that obligor.
- (1) With respect to files compiled under paragraph (1) of subdivision (c), the Franchise Tax Board shall forward to the counties, in accordance with guidelines prescribed by the Department of Child Support Services and the Franchise Tax Board, information obtained from the financial institutions pursuant to this section. No county shall use this information for directly levying on any account. Each county shall keep the information confidential as provided by Section 17212 of the Family Code.
- (2) With respect to files compiled under paragraph (2) of subdivision (c), the amount collected by the Franchise Tax Board shall be deposited and distributed to the referring state in accordance with Section 19272.
- (h) For those noncustodial parents owing past-due support for which there is a match under paragraph (1) of subdivision (d), the amount past due as indicated on the file or files compiled pursuant to subdivision (c) at the time of the match shall be a delinquency under this article for the purposes of the Franchise Tax Board taking any collection action pursuant to Section 18670 or 18670.5.
- (i) (1) Each county shall notify the Franchise Tax Board upon the occurrence of the circumstances described in the following subparagraphs with respect to an obligor of past-due support:

— **119** — Ch. 808

- (A) All of the following apply:
- (i) A court has ordered an obligor to make scheduled payments on a child support arrearages obligation.
  - (ii) The obligor is in compliance with that order.
- (B) An earnings assignment order or a notice of assignment that includes an amount for past-due support has been served on the obligated parent's employer and earnings are being withheld pursuant to the earnings assignment order or a notice of assignment.
- (C) At least 50 percent of the obligated parent's earnings are being withheld for support.
- (D) The obligor is less than 90 days delinquent in the payment of any amount of support. For purposes of this subparagraph, any delinquency existing at the time a case is received by a local child support agency shall not be considered until 90 days have passed.
- (E) A child support delinquency need not be referred to the Franchise Tax Board for collection if a jurisdiction outside this state is enforcing the support order.
- (2) Upon notification, the Franchise Tax Board shall not use the information it receives under this section to collect any past-due support from that obligor.
- (j) Notwithstanding subdivision (i), the Franchise Tax Board may use the information it receives under this section to collect any past-due support at any time if a county requests action be taken.
- (k) The Franchise Tax Board may not use the information it receives under this section to collect any past-due support if a county has applied for and received an exemption from the Department of Child Support Services as provided by subdivision (k) of Section 19271, unless that county specifically requests collection against that obligor. The Franchise Tax Board may not use the information it receives under this section to collect any past-due support if a county requests that action not be taken.
  - (1) For purposes of this section:
- (1) "Account" means any demand deposit account, share or share draft account, checking or negotiable withdrawal order account, savings account, time deposit account, or a money market mutual fund account, whether or not the account bears interest.
- (2) "Financial institution" has the same meaning as defined in Section 669A(d)(1) of Title 42 of the United States Code.
- (3) "Past-due support" means any child support obligation that is unpaid on the due date for payment.
- (m) Out of any money received from the federal government for the purpose of reimbursing financial institutions for their actual and reasonable costs incurred in complying with this section, the state shall reimburse those institutions. To the extent that money is not provided by the federal government for that purpose, the state shall not reimburse financial institutions for their costs in complying with this section.

Ch. 808 — **120** —

(n) By March 1, 1998, the Franchise Tax Board and the Department of Child Support Services, in consultation with counties and financial institutions, shall jointly propose an implementation plan for inclusion in the annual Budget Act, or in other legislation that would fund this program. The implementation plan shall take into account the program's financial benefits, including the costs of all participating private and public agencies. It is the intent of the Legislature that this program shall result in a net savings to the state and the counties.

SEC. 113. Section 19272 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

19272. (a) Any child support delinquency collected by the Franchise Tax Board, including those amounts that result in overpayment of a child support delinquency, shall be deposited in the State Treasury, after clearance of the remittance, to the credit of the Special Deposit Fund and distributed as specified by interagency agreement executed by the Franchise Tax Board and the Department of Child Support Services, with the concurrence of the Controller. Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government Code, all moneys deposited in the Special Deposit Fund pursuant to this article are hereby continuously appropriated, without regard to fiscal years, for purposes of making distributions.

- (b) When a child support delinquency, or any portion thereof, has been collected by the Franchise Tax Board pursuant to this article, the local child support agency or other IV-D agency enforcing the order shall be notified that the delinquency or some portion thereof has been collected and shall be provided any other necessary relevant information requested.
- (c) The referring local child support agency shall receive credit for the amount of collections made pursuant to the referral, including credit for purposes of the child support enforcement incentives pursuant to Section 17704 of the Family Code. Collection costs incurred by the Franchise Tax Board shall be paid by federal reimbursement with any balance to be paid from the General Fund.
- (d) For collections made pursuant to a referral for administrative enforcement or an interstate case, the IV-D agency in this state shall receive credit for the amount of collections made pursuant to the referral and shall receive the applicable federal child support enforcement incentives.
- (e) For amounts to be paid as a result of the Franchise Tax Board's activities taken pursuant to this chapter or Section 17501 of the Family Code, the Franchise Tax Board shall notify the obligor or third party to make the required payment directly to the local child support agency that referred the delinquency to the Franchise Tax Board for deposit, cashiering, and disbursement of the payment, regardless of the form and manner for making the payments, including electronic means. The Franchise Tax Board may, subject

— **121** — Ch. 808

to approval by the Department of Child Support Services, phase in this responsibility for the local child support agency to deposit, cashier, and disburse payments collected pursuant to the Franchise Tax Board accounts receivable management functions only to the extent necessary to ensure that the local child support agency is capable of accepting payment in the form and manner provided.

(f) When the statewide disbursement unit is operational, the obligors and third parties shall be directed to make child support payments to that unit instead of the counties, in accordance with the Department of Child Support Services Regulations.

SEC. 114. Section 19274 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

19274. The local child support agency may refer to the Franchise Tax Board cases in which the social security number of the noncustodial parent is unknown. The Franchise Tax Board shall search its records to obtain the noncustodial parent's social security number and furnish this information to the local child support agency to assist in the establishment or enforcement of a child support order. For purposes of administering this section, the Franchise Tax Board may use any services or information available for tax enforcement purposes, or available to a local child support agency or the Title IV-D agency in collecting or enforcing child support, or in locating absent or noncustodial parents.

SEC. 114.3. Section 19275 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

19275. For purposes of Parts 10 (commencing with Section 17001), 10.5 (commencing with Section 20501), and 11 (commencing with Section 23001), any reference to the district attorney or counties, the State Department of Social Services, or the Statewide Automated Child Support System, as it relates to the collection, enforcement, or accounts receivable management of child support under the Family Code or the Welfare and Institutions Code shall mean the local child support agency, as defined in Section 17000 of the Family Code, the Department of Child Support Services, and the California Child Support Automation System, respectively, with the changes and transition of authority keeping responsibilities as required under the Family Code and the Welfare and Institutions Code.

SEC. 115. Section 1088.8 of the Unemployment Insurance Code is amended to read:

1088.8. (a) Effective January 1, 2001, any service-recipient, as defined in subdivision (b), who makes or is required to make a return to the Internal Revenue Service, in accordance with subdivision (a) of Section 6041A of the Internal Revenue Code (relating to payments made to a service-provider as compensation for services) shall file with the department information as required under subdivision (c).

(b) For purposes of this section:

Ch. 808 — **122** —

- (1) "Service-recipient" means any individual, person, corporation, association, or partnership, or agent thereof, doing business in this state, deriving trade or business income from sources within this state, or in any manner in the course of a trade or business subject to the laws of this state. "Service-recipient" also includes the State of California or any political subdivision thereof, including the Regents of the University of California, any charter city, or any political body not a subdivision or agency of the state, and any person, employee, department, or agent thereof.
- (2) "Service-provider" means an individual who is not an employee of the service-recipient for California purposes and who received compensation or executes a contract for services performed for that service-recipient within or without the state.
- (c) Each service-recipient shall report all of the following information to the department, within 20 days of the earlier of first making payments that in the aggregate equal or exceed six hundred dollars (\$600) in any year to a service-provider, or entering into a contract or contracts with a service-provider providing for payments that in the aggregate equal or exceed six hundred dollars (\$600) in any year:
- (1) The full name, address, and social security number of the service-provider.
- (2) The service-recipient's name, business name, address, and telephone number.
- (3) The service-recipient's federal employer identification number, California state employer account number, social security number, or other identifying number as required by the Employment Development Department in consultation with the Franchise Tax Board.
- (4) The date the contract is executed, or if no contract, the date payments in the aggregate first equal or exceed six hundred dollars (\$600).
- (5) The total dollar amount of the contract, if any, and the contract expiration date.
- (d) The department shall retain information collected pursuant to this section until November 1 following the tax year in which the contract is executed, or if no contract, the tax year in which the aggregate payments first equal or exceed six hundred dollars (\$600).
- (e) For each failure to fully comply with subdivision (c), unless the failure is due to good cause, the department may assess a penalty of twenty-four dollars (\$24), or four hundred ninety dollars (\$490) if the failure is the result of conspiracy between the service recipient and service provider not to supply the required report or to supply a false or incomplete report.
- (f) Information obtained by the department pursuant to this section may be released only for purposes of establishing, modifying, or enforcing child support obligations under Section 17400 of the

**— 123** — Ch. 808

Family Code and for child support collection purposes authorized under Article 5 (commencing with Section 19271) of Chapter 5 of Part 10.2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, or to the Franchise Tax Board for tax enforcement purposes or for the administration of this code.

- (g) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2001.
- SEC. 116. Section 1255.7 of the Unemployment Insurance Code is amended to read:
- 1255.7. (a) The Department of Child Support Services shall notify the director whether an individual filing a claim for unemployment compensation after October 1, 1982, owes support obligations as defined under subdivision (h), and notify the department of any changes in the status of these individuals to ensure that the department has a current record.
- (b) The department shall maintain and keep current a record of individuals who owe support obligations and who may have claims for unemployment compensation benefits.
- (c) The department shall deduct and withhold support obligations as defined under subdivision (h) from any unemployment compensation payable to an individual who owes these obligations.
- (d) Any amount deducted and withheld under subdivision (c) shall be paid by the department to the appropriate county or to the Department of Child Support Services as the assigned payee, as stipulated by mutual agreement, in the interagency agreement between the department and the Department of Child Support Services.
- (e) Any amount deducted and withheld under subdivision (c) shall for all purposes be treated as if it were paid to the individual as unemployment compensation and paid by the individual to the Department of Child Support Services.
- (f) For purposes of subdivisions (a) to (e), inclusive, "unemployment compensation" means any compensation payable under this division, except Part 2 (commencing with Section 2601), but including amounts payable by the department pursuant to an agreement under any federal unemployment compensation law.
- (g) This section applies only if appropriate arrangements have been made for reimbursement by the Department of Child Support Services for the administrative costs incurred by the Employment Development Department.
- (h) For purposes of this section, "support obligations" means the child and related spousal support obligations which are being enforced pursuant to a plan described in Section 454 of the Social Security Act and as that section may hereafter be amended. However, to the extent "related spousal support obligations" may not be collected from unemployment compensation under federal law, those obligations shall not be included in the definition of support obligations under this section.

Ch. 808 — **124** —

SEC. 117. Section 2630 of the Unemployment Insurance Code is amended to read:

- 2630. (a) The Department of Child Support Services shall periodically notify the department of individuals who are certified, as provided in Section 17518 of the Family Code, as having support obligations, as defined by subdivision (g) and notify the department of any changes in the status of these individuals to ensure that the department has a current record.
- (b) Upon receipt of the notifications referred to in subdivision (a), the department shall determine whether the individuals have claims for unemployment compensation disability benefits, either with the department or under an approved voluntary plan.
- (c) If the department determines that an individual referred to in subdivision (a) has a claim for unemployment compensation disability benefits with an approved voluntary plan, it shall notify the voluntary plan payer. When the Department of Child Support Services notifies the department of any changes in the individual's status as to his or her support obligations, the department shall in turn notify the voluntary plan payer. Upon notification from the department, the voluntary plan payer shall deduct and withhold the amounts specified in Section 17518 of the Family Code from the unemployment compensation disability benefits that otherwise be payable to the individual. For each withholding, the voluntary plan payer shall deduct an amount which represents the amount withheld for support obligations and may also deduct an administrative fee representing actual costs, not to exceed two dollars (\$2). In no event shall the withholding and the administrative fee exceed 25 percent or a lesser amount as specified in subdivision (e) of Section 17518 of the Family Code. The voluntary plan payer shall pay the amounts for support deducted and withheld pursuant to this section to the appropriate certifying county.
- (d) The department shall maintain a current record of individuals certified as owing support obligations. If the department determines that the individual has a claim for unemployment compensation disability benefits with the department, it shall deduct and withhold the amounts specified in Section 17518 of the Family Code from the unemployment compensation disability benefits that otherwise be payable to the individual. The department shall periodically pay the amounts deducted and withheld to the appropriate county or to the Department of Child Support Services as the assigned payee, as stipulated by mutual agreement, in the agreement between the department interagency Department of Child Support Services.
- (e) Amounts deducted and withheld from an individual's unemployment compensation disability benefits in accordance with subdivision (c) or (d) shall for all purposes be treated as if it were paid to the individual and then paid by the individual to the

— **125** — Ch. 808

Department of Child Support Services or the appropriate certifying county.

- (f) This section shall apply only if appropriate arrangements are made for the Department of Child Support Services to reimburse the department for its administrative costs for performing the functions required of it by this section.
- (g) For purposes of this section, "support obligations" means the child and related spousal support obligations described in the state plan approved pursuant to Section 454 of the Social Security Act and as that section may hereafter be amended. However, to the extent "related spousal support obligations" may not be collected from unemployment compensation under federal law, those obligations shall not be included in the definition of support obligations under this section.
- SEC. 118. Section 903.4 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:
- 903.4. (a) The Legislature finds that even though Section 903 establishes parental liability for the cost of the care, support, and maintenance of a child in a county institution or other place in which the child is placed, detained, or committed pursuant to an order of the juvenile court, the collection of child support for juveniles who have been placed in out-of-home care as dependents or wards of the juvenile court under Sections 300, 601, and 602 has not been pursued routinely and effectively.

It is the purpose of this section to substantially increase income to the state and to counties through court-ordered parental reimbursement for the support of juveniles who are in out-of-home placement. In this regard, the Legislature finds that the costs of collection will be offset by the additional income derived from the increased effectiveness of the parental support program.

- (b) In any case in which a child is or has been declared a dependent child or a ward of the court pursuant to a Section 300, 601, or 602, the juvenile court shall order any agency which has expended moneys or incurred costs on behalf of the child pursuant to a detention or placement order of the juvenile court, to submit to the local child support agency, within 30 days, in the form of a declaration, a statement of its costs and expenses for the benefit, support, and maintenance of the child.
- (c) (1) The local child support agency may petition the superior court to issue an order to show cause why an order should not be entered for continuing support and reimbursement of the costs of the support of any minor described in Section 903.

Any order entered as a result of the order to show cause shall be enforceable in the same manner as any other support order entered by the courts of this state at the time it becomes due and payable.

In any case in which the local child support agency has received a declaration of costs or expenses from any agency, the declaration Ch. 808 — **126** —

shall be deemed an application for assistance pursuant to Section 17400 of the Family Code.

- (2) The order to show cause shall inform the parent of all of the following facts:
  - (A) He or she has been sued.
- (B) If he or she wishes to seek the advice of an attorney in this matter, it should be done promptly so that his or her financial declaration and written response, if any, will be filed on time.
- (C) He or she has a right to appear personally and present evidence in his or her behalf.
- (D) His or her failure to appear at the order to show cause hearing, personally or through his or her attorney, may result in an order being entered against him or her for the relief requested in the petition.
- (E) Any order entered could result in the garnishment of wages, taking of money or property to enforce the order, or being held in contempt of court.
- (F) Any party has a right to request a modification of any order issued by the superior court in the event of a change in circumstances.
- (3) Any existing support order shall remain in full force and effect unless the superior court modifies that order pursuant to subdivision (f).
- (4) The local child support agency shall not be required to petition the court for an order for continuing support and reimbursement if, in the opinion of the local child support agency, it would not be appropriate to secure such an order. The local child support agency shall not be required to continue collection efforts for any order if, in the opinion of the local child support agency, it would not be appropriate or cost effective to enforce the order.
- (d) (1) In any case in which an order to show cause has been issued and served upon a parent for continuing support and reimbursement of costs, a completed income and expense declaration shall be filed with the court by the parent; a copy of it shall be delivered to the local child support agency at least five days prior to the hearing on the order to show cause.
- (2) Any person authorized by law to receive a parent's financial declaration or information obtained therefrom, who knowingly furnishes the declaration or information to a person not authorized by law to receive it, is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- (e) If a parent has been personally served with the order to show cause and no appearance is made by the parent, or an attorney in his or her behalf, at the hearing on the order to show cause, the court may enter an order for the principal amount and continuing support in the amount demanded in the petition.

— **127** — Ch. 808

If the parent appears at the hearing on the order to show cause, the court may enter an order for the amount the court determines the parent is financially able to pay.

- (f) The court shall have continuing jurisdiction to modify any order for continuing support entered pursuant to this section.
- (g) As used in this section, "parent" includes any person specified in Section 903, the estate of any such person, and the estate of the minor person.
- (h) The local child support agency may contract with another county agency for the performance of any of the duties required by this section.
- SEC. 119. Section 903.41 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:
- 903.41. (a) It is the intention of the Legislature that the family law departments and juvenile departments of each superior court coordinate determinations of parentage and the setting of support to ensure that the State of California remains in compliance with federal regulations for child support guidelines. The Legislature therefore enacts this section for the purpose of ensuring a document exchange between the family law departments and juvenile departments of each superior court as necessary to administer the public social services administered or supervised by the State Department of Social Services.
- (b) If the issue of paternity is raised during any hearings pursuant to Section 300, 601, or 602, the court clerk shall notify the local child support agency for an inquiry concerning any superior court order or judgment which addresses the issue.
- (1) If the local child support agency determines that a judgment for parentage already exists, the local child support agency shall obtain and forward certified copies of the judgment to the juvenile court and the court shall take judicial notice thereof.
- (2) If the local child support agency determines that the issue of parentage has not been determined, the juvenile court may determine the issue of parentage and, if it does so, shall give notice to the local child support agency.
- (c) If the court establishes paternity of a minor child, the court clerk shall forward the order on a form to be adopted by the Judicial Council to the local child support agency.
- (d) If a child is receiving public assistance under the CalWORKs program, or if it appears to the court that the child may receive assistance under CalWORKs, the court shall direct the clerk of the court to advise the local child support agency.
- (e) The court shall advise the parent of the minor of the possibility that the local child support agency may file an action for support if the child receives CalWORKs, pursuant to Section 17402 of the Family Code.

Ch. 808 — **128** —

SEC. 120. Section 903.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

903.5. In addition to the requirements of Section 903.4, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the parent or other person legally liable for the support of a minor, who voluntarily places the minor in 24-hour out-of-home care, shall be liable for the cost of the minor's care, support, and maintenance when the minor receives Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC), Income-State Supplemental Security Supplementary (SSI-SSP), or county-only funds. As used in this section "parent" includes any person specified in Section 903. Whenever the county welfare department or the placing agency determines that a court order would be advisable and effective, the department or the agency shall notify the local child support agency, or the financial evaluation officer designated pursuant to Section 903.45, who shall proceed pursuant to Section 903.4.

SEC. 121. Section 10082 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

10082. (a) The department, through the Franchise Tax Board as its agent, shall be responsible for procuring, in accordance with Section 10083, developing, implementing, and maintaining the operation of the California Child Support Automation System in all California counties. This project shall, to the extent feasible, use the same sound project management practices that the Franchise Tax Board has developed in successful tax automation efforts. The single statewide system shall be operative in all California counties and shall also include the State Case Registry, the State Disbursement Unit and all other necessary data bases and interfaces. The system shall provide for the sharing of all data and case files, standardized functions across all of the counties, timely and accurate payment processing and centralized payment disbursement from a single location in the state. The system may be built in phases with payments contingent on acceptance of agreed upon deliverables. As appropriate, additional payments may be made to the vendors for predefined levels of higher performance once the system is in operation.

(b) All ongoing interim automation activities apart from the procurement, development, implementation, and maintenance of the California Child Support Automation System, including Year 2000 remediation efforts and system conversions, shall remain with the department, and shall not be the responsibility of the Franchise Tax Board. However, the department shall ensure that all interim automation consistent with activities are the procurement, development, implementation, and maintenance of the California Child Support Automation System by the Franchise Tax Board through the project charter described in Section 10083 and through continuous consultation.

**— 129** — Ch. 808

(c) The department shall seek, at the earliest possible date, all federal approvals and waivers necessary to secure financial participation and system design approval of the California Child Support Automation System.

- (d) The department shall seek federal funding for the maintenance and operation of all county child support automation systems until the time that the counties transition to the California Child Support Automation System.
- (e) The department shall direct local child support agencies, if it determines it is necessary, to modify their current automation systems or change to a different system, in order to meet the goal of statewide automation.
- (f) Notwithstanding any state policies, procedures, or guidelines, including those set forth in state manuals, all state agencies shall cooperate with the Franchise Tax Board to expedite the procurement, development, implementation, and operation of the California Child Support Automation System and shall delegate to the Franchise Tax Board, to the full extent possible, all functions including acquisition authority as provided in Section 12102 of the Public Contract Code, that may assist the Franchise Tax Board. All state agencies shall give review processes affecting the single statewide automation system their highest priority and expedite these review processes.
- (g) The Franchise Tax Board shall employ the expertise needed for the successful and efficient implementation of the single statewide child support automation system and, therefore, shall be provided three Career Executive Assignment Level 2 positions, and may enter into personal services agreements with one or more persons, at the prevailing market rates for the kind or quality of services furnished, provided the agreements do not cause the net displacement of civil service employees.
- (h) All funds appropriated to the Franchise Tax Board for purposes of this chapter shall be used in a manner consistent with the authorized budget without any other limitations.
- (i) The department and the Franchise Tax Board shall consult with local child support agencies and child support advocates on the implementation of the single statewide child support automation system.
- (j) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code), through December 31, 2000, the department may implement the applicable provisions of this chapter through family support division letters or similar instructions from the director.
- (2) The department may adopt regulations to implement this chapter in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division

Ch. 808 — **130** —

- 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. The adoption of any emergency regulation filed with the Office of Administrative Law on or before January 1, 2003, shall be deemed to be an emergency and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety or general welfare. These emergency regulations shall remain in effect for no more than 180 days.
- SEC. 122. Section 10604.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:
- 10604.5. (a) (1) Commencing July 1, 1992, the department shall pay only those county welfare department claims for federal or state reimbursement of administration and services under this division which are filed with the department within nine months of the end of the calendar quarter in which the costs are paid. A claim filed after that time may only be paid if the claim falls within the exceptions set forth in federal law. Any claim filed with the department after July 1, 1985, shall be subject to these limitations.
- (2) The department may change the nine-month limitation specified in paragraph (1), as deemed necessary by the department to comply with federal changes which affect claiming time limits.
- (b) (1) The department may waive the time limit imposed by subdivision (a) if the department determines there was good cause for a county's failure to file a claim or claims within the time limit.
- (2) (A) For purposes of this subdivision, "good cause" means circumstances which are beyond the county's control, including acts of God and documented action or inaction by the state or federal government.
- (B) "Circumstances beyond the county's control" do not include neglect or failure on the part of the county or any of its offices, officers, or employees.
- (C) A county shall request a waiver of the time limit imposed by this section for good cause in accordance with regulations adopted and promulgated by the department.
- (3) The department's authority to waive the time limit under this subdivision shall be subject to the availability of funds and shall not apply to claims submitted beyond 18 months after the end of the calendar quarter in which costs were paid.
- SEC. 123. Section 10604.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:
- 10604.6. (a) The department shall pay only those assistance claims for federal or state reimbursement under this division which are filed with the department within 18 months after the end of the calendar quarter in which the costs are paid.
- (b) Any claim which is filed after the time specified in subdivision (a) may be paid only if an exception under federal law applies to that claim
- SEC. 124. Section 11457 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

— **131** — Ch. 808

11457. Money from noncustodial parents for child or spousal support with respect to whom an assignment under Section 11477 has been made shall be paid directly to the local child support agency and shall not be paid directly to the family. Such absent parent support payments, when collected by or paid through any public officer or agency, shall be transmitted to the county department providing aid under this chapter.

The Department of Child Support Services, by regulation, shall establish procedures not in conflict with federal law, for the distribution of such noncustodial parent support payments.

If an amount collected as child or spousal support represents payment on the required support obligation for future months, the amount shall be applied to such future months. However, no such amounts shall be applied to future months unless amounts have been collected which fully satisfy the support obligation assigned under subdivision (a) of Section 11477 for the current months and all past months.

SEC. 125. Section 11477 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

11477. As a condition of eligibility for aid paid under this chapter, each applicant or recipient shall do all of the following:

- (a) (1) Assign to the county any rights to support from any other person the applicant or recipient may have on his or her own behalf or on behalf of any other family member for whom the applicant or recipient is applying for or receiving aid, not exceeding the total amount of cash assistance provided to the family under this chapter. Receipt of public assistance under this chapter shall operate as an assignment by operation of law. An assignment of support rights to the county shall also constitute an assignment to the state. If support rights are assigned pursuant to this subdivision, the assignee may become an assignee of record by the local child support agency or other public official filing with the court clerk an affidavit showing that an assignment has been made or that there has been an assignment by operation of law. This procedure does not limit any other means by which the assignee may become an assignee of record.
- (2) Support that has been assigned pursuant to paragraph (1) and that accrues while the family is receiving aid under this chapter shall be permanently assigned until the entire amount of aid paid has been reimbursed.
- (3) If the federal government does not permit states to adopt the same order of distribution for preassistance and postassistance child support arrears that are assigned on or after October 1, 1998, support arrears that accrue before the family receives aid under this chapter that are assigned pursuant to this subdivision shall be assigned as follows:

Ch. 808 — **132** —

(A) Child support assigned prior to January 1, 1998, shall be permanently assigned until aid is no longer received and the entire amount of aid has been reimbursed.

- (B) Child support assigned on or after January 1, 1998, but prior to October 1, 2000, shall be temporarily assigned until aid under this chapter is no longer received and the entire amount of aid paid has been reimbursed or until October 1, 2000, whichever comes first.
- (C) On or after October 1, 2000, support assigned pursuant to this subdivision that was not otherwise permanently assigned shall be temporarily assigned to the county until aid is no longer received.
- (D) On or after October 1, 2000, support that was temporarily assigned pursuant to this subdivision shall, when a payment is received from the federal tax intercept program, be temporarily assigned until the entire amount of aid paid has been reimbursed.
- (4) If the federal government permits states to adopt the same order of distribution for preassistance and postassistance child support arrears, child support arrears shall be assigned, as follows:
- (A) Child support assigned pursuant to this subdivision prior to October 1, 1998, shall be assigned until aid under this chapter is no longer received and the entire amount has been reimbursed.
- (B) On or after October 1, 1998, child support assigned pursuant to this subdivision that accrued before the family receives aid under this chapter and that was not otherwise permanently assigned, shall be temporarily assigned until aid under this chapter is no longer received.
- (C) On or after October 1, 1998, support that was temporarily assigned pursuant to this subdivision shall, when a payment is received from the federal tax intercept program, be temporarily assigned until the entire amount of aid paid has been reimbursed.
- (b) (1) Cooperate with the county welfare department and local child support agency in establishing the paternity of a child of the applicant or recipient born out of wedlock with respect to whom aid is claimed, and in establishing, modifying, or enforcing a support order with respect to a child of the individual for whom aid is requested or obtained, unless the applicant or recipient qualifies for a good cause exception as provided in Section 11477.04. The granting of aid shall not be delayed or denied if the applicant is otherwise eligible, if the applicant completes the necessary forms and agrees to cooperate with the local child support agency in securing support and determining paternity, where applicable. The local child support agency shall have staff available, in person or by telephone, at all county welfare offices and shall conduct an interview with each applicant to obtain information necessary to establish paternity and establish, modify, or enforce a support order at the time of the initial interview with the welfare office. The local child support agency shall make the determination of cooperation. If the applicant or recipient attests under penalty of perjury that he or she cannot provide the

— **133** — Ch. 808

information required by this subdivision, the local child support agency shall make a finding regarding whether the individual could reasonably be expected to provide the information, before the local child support agency determines whether the individual is cooperating. In making the finding, the local child support agency shall consider all of the following:

- (A) The age of the child for whom support is sought.
- (B) The circumstances surrounding the conception of the child.
- (C) The age or mental capacity of the parent or caretaker of the child for whom aid is being sought.
- (D) The time that has elapsed since the parent or caretaker last had contact with the alleged father or obligor.
  - (2) Cooperation includes the following:
- (A) Providing the name of the alleged parent or obligor and other information about that person if known to the applicant or recipient, such as address, social security number, telephone number, place of employment or school, and the names and addresses of relatives or associates.
- (B) Appearing at interviews, hearings, and legal proceedings provided the applicant or recipient is provided with reasonable advance notice of the interview, hearing, or legal proceeding and does not have good cause not to appear.
- (C) If paternity is at issue, submitting to genetic tests, including genetic testing of the child, if necessary.
- (D) Providing any additional information known to or reasonably obtainable by the applicant or recipient necessary to establish paternity or to establish, modify, or enforce a child support order.
- (3) A recipient or applicant shall not be required to sign a voluntary declaration of paternity, as set forth in Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 7570) of Part 2 of Division 12 of the Family Code, as a condition of cooperation.
- SEC. 126. Section 11477.02 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

11477.02. Prior to referral of any individual or recipient, or that person's case, to the local child support agency for child support services under Section 17400 or 17404 of the Family Code, the county welfare department shall determine if an applicant or recipient has good cause for noncooperation, as set forth in Section 11477.04. If the applicant or recipient claims a good cause exception at any subsequent time to the county welfare department or the local child support agency, the local child support agency shall suspend child support services until the county welfare department determines the good cause claim, as set forth in Section 11477.04. If good cause is determined to exist, the local child support agency shall suspend child support services until the applicant or recipient requests their resumption, and shall take such other measures as are necessary to protect the applicant or recipient and the children. If the applicant

Ch. 808 — **134** —

or recipient is the parent of the child for whom aid is sought and the parent is found to have not cooperated without good cause as provided in Section 11477.04, the applicant's or recipient's family grant shall be reduced by 25 percent for such time as the failure to cooperate lasts.

SEC. 127. Section 11479.7 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is repealed.

SEC. 128. Section 11484 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

11484. On request, all state, county, and local agencies shall cooperate with an investigator of an agency whose primary function is to detect, prevent, or prosecute public assistance fraud, by providing all information on hand relative to the location and prosecution of any person who has, by means of false statement or representation or by impersonation or other fraudulent device, obtained aid, or attempted to obtain aid for an individual under this chapter. That information is subject to confidentiality requirements under Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 10850) of Part 2. For purposes of this section, "information" shall not include taxpayer return information as defined in Section 19549 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, unless disclosure of this information is expressly authorized pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 19501) of Chapter 7 of Part 10.2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

SEC. 129. Section 14008.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

14008.6. As a condition of eligibility for medical services provided under this chapter or Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 14200), each applicant or beneficiary shall:

- (a) Assign to the state any rights to medical support and to payments for medical care from a third party that an individual may have on his of her own behalf or on behalf of any other family member for whom that individual has the legal authority to assign such rights, and is applying for or receiving medical services. Receipt of medical services under this chapter or Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 14200) shall operate as an assignment by operation of law. If those rights are assigned pursuant to this subdivision, the assignee may become an assignee of record by the local child support agency or other public official filing with the court clerk an affidavit showing that an assignment has been made or that there has been an assignment by operation of law. This procedure does not limit any other means by which the assignee may become an assignee of record.
- (b) Cooperate, as defined by subdivision (b) of Section 11477, with the local child support agency in establishing the paternity of a child born out of wedlock with respect to whom medical services are requested or claimed, and for whom that individual can legally assign the rights described in subdivision (a), and in obtaining any medical

— **135** — Ch. 808

support, as provided in Section 17400 of the Family Code, and payments, as described in subdivision (a), due any person for whom medical services are requested or obtained.

- (c) Cooperate with the state in identifying and providing information to assist the state in pursuing any third party who may be liable to pay for care and services available under the Medi-Cal program.
- (d) The local child support agency shall verify that the applicant or recipient refused to offer reasonable cooperation prior to determining that the applicant or recipient is ineligible. The granting of medical services shall not be delayed or denied if the applicant is otherwise eligible, if the applicant completes the necessary forms and agrees to cooperate with the district attorney in securing medical support and determining paternity, where applicable.
- (e) An applicant or beneficiary shall be considered to be cooperating with the local child support agency and shall be eligible for medical services, if otherwise eligible, if the applicant or beneficiary cooperates to the best of his or her ability or has good cause for refusal to cooperate with the requirements in subdivisions (b) and (c), as defined by Section 11477.04. The county welfare department shall make the determination of whether good cause for refusal to cooperate exists.

The county welfare department and the local child support agency shall ensure that all applicants for or beneficiaries of medical services under this chapter or Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 14200) are properly notified of the conditions imposed by this section.

SEC. 130. Section 14124.93 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

14124.93. (a) The Department of Child Support Services shall provide payments to the local child support agency of fifty dollars (\$50) per case for obtaining third-party health coverage or insurance of beneficiaries.

(b) A county shall be eligible for a payment if the county obtains third-party health coverage or insurance for applicants or recipients of Title IV-D services not previously covered, or for whom coverage has lapsed, and the county provides all required information on a form approved by both the Department of Child Support Services and the State Department of Health Services.

SEC. 130.1. Section 12.1 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 699.510 of the Code of Civil Procedure proposed by both this bill and AB 2405. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, (2) each bill amends Section 699.510 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and (3) this bill is enacted after AB 2405, in which case Section 12 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 130.2. Section 29 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 3751.5 of the Family Code proposed by both this bill and AB

Ch. 808 — **136** —

2130. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, (2) each bill amends Section 3751.5 of the Family Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after AB 2130, in which case Section 28 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 130.3. Section 97.1 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 11552 of the Government Code proposed by both this bill and SB 150. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, (2) each bill amends Section 11552 of the Government Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after SB 150, in which case Section 97 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 130.4. Section 98.1 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 12419.3 of the Government Code proposed by both this bill and AB 2906. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, (2) each bill amends Section 12419.3 of the Government Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after AB 2906, in which case Section 98 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 130.5. Section 100.1 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 26746 of the Government Code proposed by both this bill and AB 1768. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, (2) each bill amends Section 26746 of the Government Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after AB 1768, in which case Section 100 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 130.6. Section 111.1 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 11105 of the Penal Code proposed by both this bill and SB 2161. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, (2) each bill amends Section 11105 of the Penal Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after SB 2161, in which case Section 111 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 130.7. Section 111.5 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 13300 of the Penal Code proposed by both this bill and SB 2161. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, (2) each bill amends Section 13300 of the Penal Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after SB 2161, in which case Section 111.3 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 131. Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the Government Code, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the claim for reimbursement does not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000), reimbursement shall be made from the State Mandates Claims Fund.

**— 137** — Ch. 808

SEC. 132. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order to provide clarification in the law regarding the entities authorized and directed to enforce child support obligations, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.